



**Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade**  
ESTABLISHED 1859.

**Head Office:** 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.  
Melbourne, Vic. .. Fink's Buildings, Elizabeth Street.  
**Branch Offices:** Sydney, N.S.W. .. 114 Pitt Street.  
Adelaide, S.A. .. 76 Brookman's Building, Grenfell Street.  
New York, U.S.A. .. Park Row Building.

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Ten shillings a year in advance, post free to any part of the world, including a copy of THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY next published. Single copy, 4d.; Summer or Winter Number, 1s.; DIARY, 3s. 6d. Postal orders and cheques to be crossed "Martin's Bank (Limited)."

THIS JOURNAL is regularly supplied by subscription to the whole of the Members of FIFTEEN PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETIES in the British Empire. The associate Journal, *The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia*, published at Melbourne and Sydney, is also supplied to all Australasian subscribers.

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#### EFFECTIVE ADVERTISING.

THE unique advantage of advertising in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, next to the fact that it appeals to the drug-trade of the British Empire, is that the advertisements speak

#### Every Day all the Year Round.

The DIARY is presented to every subscriber to the C. & D., and there is no part of the Empire, however remote, where there is not some chemist and druggist in business who gets it. Consequently advertising in the DIARY is one of the best bits of business that any firm with goods to sell to druggists can possibly do.

#### The Diary for 1902

is now in preparation, and the Publisher is booking orders for business announcements to be inserted in it. Those who have not yet given him instructions for their advertisements should do so without further delay, as it is imperative that the printed sheets should be in the binders' hands early in November, so that we may deliver DIARIES to subscribers in Australia, China, Japan, India, Ceylon, South Africa, and all other parts of the Empire.

#### Before the New Year.

We strongly recommend every business house to take advantage of this excellent opportunity to announce the nature of their business to the drug trade of the British Empire. It will pay them well, for every advertisement is fully classified in the "Buyers' Guide," which is referred to by thousands of buyers all the year round. Instructions for advertisements should be sent to the Publisher of the C. & D., 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

#### Summary.

QUEENSLAND PHARMACISTS want their qualifying examination to be divided (p. 639).

A COLLIER is prosecuting a dentist for unlawfully using D.D.S. and D.S.S. (p. 654).

AN ETHER-EXPLOSION occurred in the Government laboratories, London, this week (p. 635).

PHARMACEUTICAL RECIPROCITY is not making headway in Australia at present (p. 647).

THE CEYLON POISONS ORDINANCE has duly become law, and the schedule is printed on p. 639.

THREE BRETHREN OF ALDERSGATE" supply this week's cartoon and nursery rhyme (p. 646).

WE report further proceedings in connection with the robberies from Barron, Harveys & Co. on pp. 635 and 646.

ASSOCIATION schools are in a bad way according to Plymouth and Sheffield reports (p. 642 and p. 644).

MR. PHILIP HUCKLEBRIDGE, a West of London chemist, has died as the result of a bicycle-accident (p. 640).

THE SCARCITY OF APPRENTICES will right itself soon, says the President of the Pharmaceutical Society (p. 642).

AN INVERNESS ASSISTANT in Mayor's Drug-stores has been fined under the Pharmacy Act for selling poison (p. 655).

THE failure of the shellac crop has sent up the price of the resin still further. The position is summarised on p. 651.

THE Federation of Pharmaceutical Associations wish local associations to keep a night open for Federation topics (p. 652).

A VETERINARY STUDENT, in practice, has been fined under the Veterinary Surgeons Act for using the letters M.E.V.M.S. (p. 654).

"XRAYSER" does not think Mr. Kelly's proposed additional clause for the Irish Pharmacy Act will accomplish its purpose (p. 647).

THE veteran and world-famed pathologist, Professor Rudolf Virchow, has celebrated his 80th birthday with international manifestations (p. 658).

MR. JOHN TAYLOR has given students some good advice at the reopening of the classes in connection with the Sheffield Pharmaceutical Association (p. 644).

ANNUAL ASSOCIATION MEETINGS have been held at Dewsbury, London (West), Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Plymouth, when office-bearers were elected (p. 642, *et seq.*).

OUR recent observations in regard to the scarcity of apprentices are being confirmed at provincial association meetings. See reports under Winter Session, p. 641.

THE Local Government Report, so far as it deals with the administration of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts during 1900, is commented upon in an article on p. 650.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS by Mr. J. W. Peck to the Chemists' Assistants' Association is reported on p. 641. He urged greater co-operation amongst assistants.

THE features of the drug and chemical markets are a reduction in caffeine, pilocarpine, and spermaceti, while crude camphor, American peppermint oil, senega, shellac, and nitrate of potash are dearer (p. 661).

VERBAL DIRECTIONS by doctors to patients have been condemned by the Portsmouth Coroner, who had to investigate the death of a child resulting from an atropine eye-lotion being used as a nasal-douche (p. 634).

THE DRAFT PHARMACY BILL was relaunched at Liverpool on October 10, when the President of the Pharmaceutical Society and several councillors explained it, and the meeting approved after some opposition (p. 665). The Bill is epitomised on p. 648.

METHYLATED SOAP-LINIMENT is the latest drug secured by the Food and Drugs inspectors. A North London chemist has been fined in respect to it, and several cases are pending. Other adulteration-cases include almond oil, linseed-meal, and milk of sulphur (p. 654).

THE BENEVOLENT FUND SUBSCRIPTIONS in 1866 amounted to 391*l.*, and the disbursements were 304*l.*. Now the income is many times as much, there are forty-three annuities instead of four, and 779*l.* is distributed in grants. "Xrayser" agrees with Mr. Carteigne that that is owing to the catholicity of the fund (p. 617).

## English News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Brevities.

The three men who were charged with burgling the premises of Mr. Frank Adams, pharmaceutical chemist, Marine Parade, Brighton (*C. & D.*, October 12, page 599), have been committed for trial.

Two men were sent to gaol for two months with hard labour, on October 12, for wilfully breaking the plate-glass windows of Mr. C. H. Clarke, chemist and druggist, Chepstow, and a neighbouring tradesman.

There was a Pharmacy-Act case down for hearing at the Wandsworth County Court on Monday, but it did not come on, the defendant having paid the penalty into court. The case arose from a recent transaction at one of Parkes' Drug-stores, the Pharmaceutical Society being prosecutors.

The Sheffield employés of Boots (Limited) had a supper in connection with the cricket club on October 10 at the Merry Heart Hotel, when Mr. H. Greenfield, secretary to the club, was presented with a gold-mounted umbrella in recognition of his services during the past season. An excellent musical entertainment was given.

Joseph William Shaw (32), described as a chemist, was sentenced to nine months' hard labour at the Worcester Quarter Sessions, on October 14, for obtaining by false pretences a truss, value 5s. 6d., from Messrs. Morgan & Lawley, chemists, Kidderminster. Prisoner had two previous convictions against him within twelve months.

The difficulty of providing tooth-brushes for the children at Malmesbury Workhouse, as recommended by the Local Government Board, has been met by the generosity of two members, who have given two dozen brushes. Mr. Fairweather, dentist, Malmesbury, has also agreed to perform the duties of dentist to the children free of charge.

That useful commercial organisation, the Norfolk and Norwich Traders' Association, has had another prosperous year. At its thirtieth annual meeting, held last week, it was reported that thirty-five new members had been obtained, and the finances showed a balance of 497*l.* Pharmacy is represented on the Committee of Management by Mr. J. De Carle Smith, jun., chemist and druggist.

A carter named Holland, at the Liverpool Court of Passage on October 10, sued Messrs. W. Bragg & Co., of 19 Oldhall Street, Liverpool, to recover damages for injuries received by a heavy sack of wax falling upon him out of a sling which was worked by an employé of the defendants'. Eventually an agreement was made between the parties, under which judgment was entered for the plaintiff for 125*l.* and costs.

The arbitration between the Home Office and the pottery-manufacturers of Staffordshire as to the necessity of new rules in connection with the use of the lead glazes (see *C. & D.*, September 28, page 543) and the compulsory medical examination of the male operatives, has been fixed for November 2, at Stoke-on-Trent. Lord James of Hereford will be the umpire. Professor Thorpe and Dr. Oliver, scientific experts, and Messrs. Sutton and Conyngham, counsel, will appear for the Home Office. Mr. Fletcher Moulton and Mr. Brough will represent the manufacturers.

### Birmingham Notes.

The number of deaths from chloroform administration in our city was stated at the Coroner's Court on Friday last to be "only four or five yearly."

Mr. J. H. Shorthouse, author of "John Inglesant" and partner in the chemical-works of Messrs. Shorthouse & Sons, Great Charles Street, is dangerously ill.

Mr. A. E. Tucker, F.I.C., has been appointed President of the Midland Institute Scientific Society, Dr. A. B. Bostock Hill of the similar Society at Shirley, and Dr. Coole Kneale of the Sparkhill Society.

Messrs. Southall's apparatus department, Easy Row, was the scene of a fire last Monday. It began in an outhouse amongst the straw and packing-cases, and did much damage to the roof, carboys of acid, and sundry effects. The cause is unknown.

Mr. R. Wright, the energetic Treasurer of the Chemists' Assistants' Union, has been visiting the leading members of the trade here, and rumour hath it that he is desirous of gathering to his Union more numbers and weight by embracing assistants in the large provincial towns. Seeing that the local Assistants' Association died suddenly a year or two ago, and that the older Association is just beginning to wipe the dust out of its awaking eyes, and bracing itself up for the coming session, it is gratifying to find that London has applied the stimulus. The local Council meets in the middle of the month, and Mr. Barclay, the President, has some new scheme up his sleeve.

### The Value of Verbal Directions.

An inquest was held at Portsmouth on October 11 on the body of a child named Harrington, 4 years old, the daughter of a dock-labourer. The child's mother deposed that deceased suffered from weak eyes, and she took her to the Eye and Ear infirmary, where she was examined by Dr. Ward Cousins. He gave witness a prescription to give to the dispenser, and she received two bottles, one labelled "Lotion for the Eyes," and the other—a smaller one—"The Drops—Poison." As she understood it, Dr. Cousins told her to dilute the drops with warm water and inject up the nose. The other she did not use. In all she injected four teaspoonfuls of the diluted drops up the child's nose. The child was brought home from school very strange in her manner and grasping at imaginary things. She got worse and was taken to the hospital, where she died. Frederick Smith, dispenser at the Eye-and-Ear Hospital, gave evidence as to supplying the bottles according to Dr. Cousins's prescription. The larger bottle contained boric-acid lotion, and the smaller a solution of atropine. Unless otherwise stated the boric lotion was always labelled "for the eyes." There was no indication on the prescription as to how the lotion or the drops were to be used, but he asked the mother if she understood the doctor's instructions, and she replied that she did. The atropine solution was dispensed in a green bottle. Dr. Ward Cousins, in his evidence, said he was very careful to explain to the woman that the small bottle was for the eyes, and the lotion in the large bottle was to be diluted and injected into the nostrils. He gave her explicit instructions, and he thought she understood them. He gave no directions as to the labelling of the bottles, because the dispenser knew exactly what he wished to be done. He preferred to give personal instructions, because patients seldom understood the directions on a label. The Coroner Mr. T. A. Bramson (holding up the boric lotion): That, you see, is labelled "Lotion for the Eyes." Would not a semi-ignorant person be likely in the circumstances to understand that that was to be dropped into the eye and the other was not?—No, because I distinctly told the woman different, and warned her to be careful. The Coroner: But she never saw these bottles in your presence?—No. The Coroner suggested that some different course should be adopted in future to prevent persons mistaking one bottle for the other. He thought at the time the instructions were given a specimen of each bottle should be shown to the patients, that they might have a better understanding how to act clearly in accordance with the instructions. The jury returned a verdict of death from misadventure.

### A Chemist's Death.

The death of Mr. Oliver Gillett Berridge, chemist and druggist, Leicester (*C. & D.*, October 12, page 607) engaged the attention of a coroner's jury at Leicester on October 10 and 11. Evidence of finding the body was given, and Dr. Mason deposed to discovering on a table by the side of the bed a bottle and glass, the bottle being about three parts full, and labelled "Scheele's Prussic Acid." So far as the appearance of the body was concerned the indications were entirely negative: death might have been due to heart-disease. There was no smell of prussic acid in the glass. After the evidence the jury desired that a *post-mortem* examination

should be made. This was done and the inquiry resumed on the following day, when the evidence of both Dr. Mason and Dr. Meadows showed that prussic-acid poisoning was without doubt the cause of death. The jury returned a verdict of suicide while of unsound mind.

#### Fire.

On October 11 fire was discovered on the premises of Boots (Limited), Parkinson Street, Nottingham. The outbreak originated in the firm's fine art picture-framing department, and much havoc was wrought amongst the stock by fire and water.

#### Laboratory Explosions.

On Wednesday, October 9, an accident occurred at the Chemical Laboratory, Cambridge. Mr. W. J. N. Spivey, M.A., Trinity College, Demonstrator to the Jacksonian Professor of Natural Philosophy, was shaking a 6-litre flask containing xylene and carbon bisulphide together with an oxidising-agent—chromium oxychloride—for the purpose of some research-work. It is supposed that the mixture became somewhat overheated and caused an inflammable vapour to arise. This was ignited by the gas-flame at the top of the fume-chamber, causing an explosion. Mr. Spivey was severely injured, being badly burnt about the face and chest, and his arm was deeply cut with the broken glass. The room sustained considerable damage, and others working at the same time narrowly escaped injury. We hear that Mr. Spivey is progressing favourably.

On October 16 an explosion occurred at the Government Laboratory in Clare Market, W.C. A number of men were employed in the rooms in the basement, where ether and sulphuric acid are stored, when a quantity of ether caught fire. The occupants rushed upstairs, their departure from the room being immediately followed by a terrific explosion, it being presumed that the heat had burst a bottle of sulphuric acid. The fumes filled the building, and the employés were obliged to go to the top storey, whence some were rescued from the windows by fire-escapes, while others got on to an adjoining roof, and so to the ground. When the firemen and salvage-corps managed to get into the building they found that very little damage had been done beyond the destruction of a large quantity of ether and chemicals. The rescued men appear to have been severely shaken by the shock, and to have suffered from the inhalation of the fumes.

#### The Spectacle-makers' Examination.

Colonel T. Davies Sewell, Clerk of the Company, informs us that the next examination of the Spectacle-makers will be held in the Carpenters' Hall, London Wall, E.O., on November 6, 7, and 8. The last day for receiving applications is October 21.

#### L.C.C. Tenders.

At the weekly meeting of the London C.C. on Tuesday the Main Drainage Committee reported that the following tenders had been received for the supply of protosulphate of iron for precipitation-purposes at the Barking and Crossness Outfall-works:—Messrs. T. Herschel Jones & Co, 27s. 6d. per ton; Messrs. J. Bevan & Son, 27s. 9d.; Mr. D. Matthews, 28s. 1½d.; and the Swansea Copperas Company, 28s. 5d. The tender of Messrs. T. Herschel Jones & Co. was accepted.

#### The Busy Mayor of Oxford Town

The doings of the Mayor of Oxford (Mr. G. Claridge Druce) during last week showed no diminution of that versatile gentleman's activity. On October 3 he attended a dance of the Oxford Volunteers, and presented prizes to the best shots. On the following morning he presided at the Police Court, while the whole of the afternoon was taken up with an adventurous journey involved in the time-honoured custom of "beating the bounds." Those who know Mr. Druce's irrepressible geniality can well imagine that he got as much fun as could be extracted out of this arduous proceeding, which was not without its dangers, as a punt containing the municipal party was nearly overturned in mid-stream. After the bounds had been successfully beaten a

dinner in the Town Hall refreshed the wayfarers and provided vent for the eloquence of the diners, who had all a good word to say for Mayor Druce. On Sunday the Mayor and Corporation attended St. Mary's Church, and on Monday, after welcoming the members of the Incorporated Law Society to Oxford, Mr. Druce made a presentation to a G.W.R. guard, who has earned the esteem of the citizens, in the Mayor's parlour. On Tuesday he presided at the Police Court in the morning, and attended the dinner of the Incorporated Law Society at Balliol College in the evening, when he responded to the toast of "The City of Oxford."

#### A Political Economist.

The Brabazon Employment Committee (for providing light recreative occupation for workhouse inmates) in connection with the Hampstead Workhouse has added a new industry for the inmates of that institution. On the suggestion of some local medical men inmates have been set to making surgical bandages, under proper antiseptic conditions. One inmate, however, refused the work, assuring the chaplain that it was against the laws of political economy to allow goods to be made in the workhouse to compete with wage-earners outside who had to pay for its maintenance.

#### Charge of Burgling a Pharmacy.

At Manchester, on October 9, a man named Andrew Jackson was committed for trial on a charge of breaking into the premises of Mr. James Boden Williams, chemist and druggist, Trafford Park, and stealing articles to the value of 13s.

#### Charge of Receiving.

On October 11, at the Guildhall Police Court, before Alderman Sir Reginald Hanson, Henry Worcester (62), described as a watchman, was charged with being concerned with Ernest Clark (under remand) in stealing and receiving four bottles of sarsaparilla, two sticks of liquorice, and some liniment, the property of Messrs. Barron, Harveys & Co., 5 and 6 Giltspur Street, E.C. Mr. Muskett, who prosecuted for the Wholesale Druggists' Protection League, stated that he only proposed to call sufficient evidence to justify a remand until the day when the other prisoner (see *C. & D.*, October 12, page 599) would be brought up. Some goods which had been stolen from the prosecutors were left at a public-house in the Borough; these were called for by the prisoner, who paid something, and then sold a bottle to the publican. The evidence of the landlord of the Kentish Waggoners, Tabard Street, Borough, was to the effect that some months ago a man left a parcel at night and said a person would call for it next morning, and the following day the prisoner came and the parcel was handed to him. He opened it in his (witness's) presence: it contained bottles of sarsaparilla, a tin box of pills, &c. Accused asked him if he would like a bottle of sarsaparilla? He bought one for 9d. Defendant assured the Court that he did not know that the goods were stolen. The accused was remanded, being admitted to bail in one surety of 20l. (See page 646 for the end of this case.)

#### Improper Ointment.

At an inquiry held at Penygraig on October 9, concerning the death of a boy named Obediah Harries (14), it was stated that deceased had got his hand mangled in a chaff-cutting machine. Dr. Llewellyn treated the wounds antiseptically, and everything was going on well until the mother, at the request of some of her neighbours, took the lad to see a woman named Thomas, who had acquired a local reputation for treating wounds, and who supplied an ointment of her own manufacture. When Dr. Llewellyn next saw the boy he found him suffering from lockjaw, from which he died a few days later. The doctor could not allege that the ointment was the immediate cause of death, but he said it was a most improper ointment to use. The Coroner told Mrs. Thomas it was fortunate for her that the doctor put it in the way he did, or she might have been committed for manslaughter.

#### The Recipe-collector.

At an inquiry held at Manchester on October 10, into the death of a labourer named Brocklehurst, the widow deposed that deceased was troubled with pains in his back, for the

cure of which he had been given a recipe by a Mr. William Broadhurst. The recipe said, "Get 2*d.* worth of pearlash, add a pint of boiling water, let it cool, and take a wine-glassful night and morning." She sent a boy to a chemist for 1*d.* worth of pearlash. The stuff he brought back was in a lump and was of "a dark-blue stone colour, almost black." She had destroyed the label and thrown the unused stuff away, but it was nothing like the substance subsequently shown her as "pearlash." She gave her husband a tablespoonful of the pearlash-solution made according to the recipe, and he exclaimed that he was poisoned. She gave him an emetic of salt and water and called in a doctor, who attended him for a month and afterwards sent him to Manchester Infirmary, where he died. In the course of his examination, William Broadhurst (formerly a dyer, but now out of employment) showed the Coroner (Mr. Sidney Smelt) a penny memorandum-book containing a number of recipes, from which he had taken the one he wrote for deceased. Mr. Smelt examined the book, and intimated that the particular recipe referred to specified "potash," not "pearlash." But, said the witness, po'ash and pearlash are the same thing. He knew that from a book on chemistry he had at home. He got the prescription from a friend at Stockport three or four years ago. The Coroner read a number of the recipes from witness's book, which contained "cures" for fits, piles, weak eyes, coughs, headaches, sick pigeons, frog, biliousness, sciatica, and rheumatism. Witness produced a bottle which he said contained pearlash dissolved in boiling water, according to the prescription. The pearlash he obtained from Messrs. W. J. Hall & Co., druggists, Stockport, and it was in clear white crystals. He drank some of the solution on the previous night in the presence of the officer. At the adjourned inquiry on October 16, John Samuel Livesley said he assisted his father, who was a chemist, at Hayfield. He had been at the business four years, and had passed some pharmaceutical examinations, but was not fully qualified. He did not remember serving the boy, but pearlash was sold frequently. It was used for cleansing-purposes. If he had known that the pearlash was to be taken as a medicine, he would not have supplied it. The Coroner: What is pearlash? Witness: Carbonate of potash. Supposing you were asked for potash to be taken as a medicine, what would you give?—Bicarbonate of potash. Dr. Chapman, who had attended deceased, described the symptoms. Pearlash, he said, was an irritant poison. He had never heard of it being given as a medicine. Dr. Gamble, of the infirmary, said deceased died as the result of an irritant poison. The jury returned a verdict of death from an irritant poison prescribed by Wm. Broadhurst, who was ignorant of its action.

#### The Week's Poisonings.

Only seven fatalities from poisons are reported since last week, two being caused by cyanide of potassium, two by carbolic acid, one by laudanum, and one by atropine, referred to elsewhere.—A child, 5 months old, at Plaistow, sucked the design off a celluloid picture-card and died from the effects of an irritant poison, but the doctor could not tell the Coroner what the poison was.—Carbolic acid was mistaken for tea by a Chislehurst coachman, and he drank a quantity. On discovering the mistake he at once swallowed a dose of castor oil, vomited, and recovered.—A young woman at Newcastle steeped six boxes of matches in a jar of water, and drank a quantity of the solution. She was taken to the infirmary, and recovered.—A labourer at Woolwich tried to poison himself with hydrochloric acid, but was unsuccessful.—The City Coroner, at an inquest on October 8, said that since the recent Act prohibiting the indiscriminate sale of carbolic acid, the favourite poison for suicides appeared to be spirit of salt, which he regretted was not also on the schedule.

#### Irish News.

##### Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

*Pharmaceutical Licence Examination.*—The following passed at the recent examination:—H. Harrison (A. Mayne, E. B. P. Staunton), J. J. Cole, J. D. Hamilton, R. H. Lowe,

M. R. J. Hayes, A. T. Bennett. Eight candidates were rejected.

*Registered Druggist Examination* (at Belfast).—The following passed:—G. Black, G. Cheevers, Jane Cunningham, A. V. Johnstone, F. W. McCnally. Three candidates were rejected.

*Pharmaceutical Assistant Examination.*—T. Johnston and I. J. Sheridan passed. One candidate was rejected.

#### Compounder's Resignation.

With reference to the appointment of compounder to the Grand Canal Street Dispensary in room of Dr. Johns (*C. & D.*, October 5), the latter having stated that there was no vacancy at the time, he has since changed his mind and sent in his resignation to the South Dublin Union. At the meeting of the Guardians on October 9 a letter was read from the Local Government Board stating that during Dr. John's absence for twelve months the Guardians could only give him full salary for first six months and half salary for second six months. The Guardians said that they were within their rights in granting full salary to Dr. Johns during his illness, which had resulted in his resignation, and they now asked the Local Government Board to grant same.

#### Laudanum Poisoning.

On October 9 an old man was found in an unconscious state on the road near Lisburn, and he died the same afternoon in the infirmary. Two empty 1 oz. laudanum-bottles were found beside him. At the inquest Dr. St. George said that the man died from narcotic poisoning, and the jury found that the poison was taken suicidally.

#### Dispensing Difficulty.

Recently the Limerick Guardians decided to appoint a non-resident apothecary for the workhouse, and as the house-doctor has since had to compound medicines at night, a proposal was made to increase his salary from 300*l.* to 350*l.* But the L.G.B. have interposed, and will have none of it. In a letter to the Guardians the Board say that if they had known it was intended to increase the medical officer's salary they would not have consented to substituting an outdoor dispenser for a resident one.

#### Conference Sequel.

A movement is on foot in Dublin to make a presentation to Mr. J. I. Bernard in recognition of his splendid services as Hon. Secretary of the Local Committee. Subscriptions are being received by Mr. G. D. Beggs, Dalkey; Sir T. W. Robinson, Clarinda Park, Kingstown; Mr. T. White, 8 Prince of Wales Terrace, Bray; and Mr. Frank J. Gill, Kenilworth, Clontarf, Dublin. So far the fund has met with a good reception, as many people have felt the want of some means of expressing their feelings towards Mr. Bernard, whose efforts made the Conference one of the most successful and enjoyable ever held.

#### Opening a Pharmacy.

At Newcastle West, co. Limerick, Petty Sessions, on October 12, Mr. E. Knight sued John Power, Church Street, Newcastle West, for possession of premises let to him on August 21 last as caretaker at 1*d.* per week. Mr. Knight's son requires the premises to open an apothecary's business, but Power refused possession. A decree for possession of the premises was granted by the Bench.

#### Donnybrook Dispenser.

The South Dublin Guardians, as stated in the *C. & D.*, of October 5, appointed Mr. McKenna as compounder in the Donnybrook Dispensary, but they have discovered that the appointment was informal, as some Guardians pointed out on the occasion of the meeting in question. They have now advertised the position again, at a salary of 120*l.* The election is to take place on October 23.

#### Evicting a Dispensary.

At the last meeting of the Castlerea Guardians, it was stated by the Clerk that Ballinlough Dispensary would have to be given up, as the owner had given notice to quit

for October 1. Mr. Clarke (*Guardian*): That is a very serious matter. He might throw the bottles and all out in the street, and destroy very valuable drugs. Mr. Flanagan said it was all right if the landlord had not thrown them out already. Mr. Clarke: There may be very expensive medicines and medical appliances there, and it is a very serious matter that they would be exposed to the cold and wet. The Clerk: Faith, he might throw the doctor and all out in the cold. (Laughter.) The Board directed the relieving officer to have the medicines, &c., removed to the new dispensary at once.

#### Linseed-meal.

A grocer was charged at the Cookstown Petty Sessions on October 12 with selling linseed-meal containing less than 11 per cent. of oil. The solicitor for the defence said neither the defendant nor any other grocer in Cookstown kept linseed-meal, which was only sold by chemists for medicinal purposes and cost twice as much as ground linseed-cake. It was also pleaded that the shopman had made a mistake and on that account the summons was dismissed.

#### Personal.

On the recommendation of the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava, Mr. John McClement, chemist and druggist, High Street, Newtownards, has been appointed to the Commission of the Peace for the district of Newtownards.

#### Technical Classes.

The Working Men's Institute and School of Science and Art, Belfast, are prepared to start classes for Registered Druggists', as also for the Pharmaceutical Assistants' examination and Assistants' examination of the Apothecaries' Hall, Ireland, in addition to the usual classes for Preliminary and Final examinations in pharmacy. The fees will be low, as the classes are to be conducted under the new Technical Instruction Committee. Particulars can be had from the Secretary, at the Institute, Queen Street.

## Scotch News.

#### The Kinnimont Gold Medal.

The Kinnimont Gold Medal has been awarded to Mr. John Hunter. This is the fifth year in succession that this honour has been gained by a student of the Glasgow School of Pharmacy.

#### Business Changes.

Mr. J. G. Anderson, chemist and druggist, has opened a new pharmacy at Cargilfield, Trinity, near Edinburgh.

Mr. T. Guthrie, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business carried on for many years at Annan by Mr. Samuel Boyd.

Mr. R. Guild Strachan, chemist and druggist, Broughty Ferry, has purchased Craighall Crescent Pharmacy, 46 Albert Street, Dundee, recently opened by Mr. William Skinner.

#### Did not Appear.

At the Leith Licensing Court on October 14, Messrs. Harkness, Beaumont & Co., wholesale druggists, Ballantyne Road, failed to appear in support of their application for a dealer's licence, which was accordingly refused.

#### Cantharides as a Soporific.

In the sensational breach-of-promise trial which has occupied the Lord Justice Clerk and a jury at the Court of Session, Edinburgh, for some time, allegations were made by the plaintiff, Mrs. Brodie, of "drugging" by cantharides and Indian hemp. At the hearing on October 14, Sir Henry Littlejohn, Professor of Medical Jurisprudence at the University of Edinburgh, was called for the defendant. He said cantharides was an irritant poison, and the reverse of a soporific. To swallow sufficient to produce insensibility would be like swallowing a blister. It had no appreciable smell. Indian hemp could be put into tea, and would produce insensibility, but he never heard of its use in this country. Dr. Joseph Bell, a well-known Edinburgh practitioner, and the original of "Sherlock Holmes," said it was not only impossible, but unthinkable, that the lady would be rendered insensible by cantharides and then wake

up within a few minutes and talk. Indian hemp was very bitter, but might escape detection if the tea were bolted.

#### Fire.

Damage estimated at 1,700*l.* was done by a fire which broke out on October 11 on the premises of Mr. John Burns, aerated-water manufacturer, Dockhead, Dumfries. The fire brigade were soon on the spot, but the flames had a firm hold, and almost the entire premises were destroyed, only the walls being left. The whole of the machinery was practically ruined.

## French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

**THE NEW PHARMACY LAW.**—In the *Pharmacie Laborieuse* (the assistants' journal here) A. Grappe, who claims twenty-two years of practical experience, asks if it would not be possible, when retouching the proposed new law, to do away with some of the anomalies which press so hardly on the French pharmacist? He cites the case of a customer who demands corrosive sublimate, iodide of potassium, and chloride of gold and potassium. The pharmacist who supplies these poisons as medicaments without the presentation of a prescription is liable to a 20*l.* fine. He must therefore ask for what purpose they are required, and possibly annoy the customer by so doing. Yet the first is currently used as an insecticide, and the others in photography. The oil and colour dealer can supply them with impunity in unlimited quantities in France, but not so the qualified chemist. One pharmacist at least has met the difficulty by referring inquirers for photographic chemicals to his special photographic counter. Again, a customer wishes for nitric acid to destroy warts; the 20*l.* fine again comes into view. Most likely he finishes by inviting the client to allow him to cauterise the warts in the pharmacy, but this is very near the borders of the medical profession. Evidently the day of perfection for pharmacy is still very remote in France.

**PHARMACY AND THE ALCOHOL TAX.**—The pharmacists of Château Thierry and district have had a tilt in the judicial arena with the Excise authorities regarding the increased alcohol tax which came into operation this year, and have won their case at the first hearing. The question was whether pharmacists are called upon to pay increased Excise duty on the alcohol they had in stock at the time the new tax came into operation. Under the terms of the law all persons, such as spirit merchants, perfumers, and other traders holding a stock of alcohol or alcoholic preparations, had to declare their stock and pay the increased tax on it. Most French pharmacists did the same, but those at Château Thierry decided to contest the matter, and they have been given satisfaction. The terms of the judgment are as follows:—

Whereas the new law regarding alcohol requires dealers in alcohol everywhere to declare to the Excise office the amount of alcohol in their possession, but as regards pharmacists, although they are dealers because they buy certain products to sell them in the same condition as purchased, they are not in reality dealers in alcohol. If they keep this product in their *offices*, it is not for the purpose of making a profit on it as such, but because it is required in more or less large quantities for preparing certain remedies, for which it serves either as a base, accessory, or solvent. Consequently duty cannot be claimed on alcohol in their possession under the new law, especially when one bears in mind that the increased alcohol tax was imposed to compensate for reduced taxes on hygienic drinks in the interest of the public health. It would, as a matter of fact, be a singular thing to admit that the legislator, in voting a law in favour of general well-being and hygiene, intended by an increase of the tax on alcohol used in pharmacy to increase the already comparatively high prices of tinctures and other remedies containing alcohol, which are required when the public health is compromised, especially as poor people would suffer thereby. The result of the second measure would be to destroy to a considerable extent the salutary effects of the first, thus bringing about a deplorable contraction, which the legislator cannot have intended. Consequently the new alcohol tax cannot be held to apply to stocks of alcohol held by pharmacists, and specially used for manufacturing or preparing remedies.

It is possible that the Excise authorities may appeal against this judgment.

## South African News.

(From our Colonial Correspondents.)

**CAPE IMPORTS.**—The value of the drugs and chemicals imported into the Cape Colony during the eight months ended August 31 is officially returned at 200,551L. In the corresponding period of 1900 the value was 132,148L.

**LAUNCHED.**—Mr. A. Hare, chemist and druggist, has opened a pharmacy at Florida Road, Durban. Mr. Hare, who has been some years with Messrs. Reed & Champion, has every prospect of a good future, as the district in which he has opened business is thickly populated.

**CHEAP MEDICINE.**—Messrs. Lennon (Limited) have intimated that they are prepared to supply employés of the Municipality of Johannesburg with medicine at the special municipal rate on the prescription of the Medical Officer of Health. This offer has been accepted by the Town Council with thanks.

**THE STORAGE OF COLLODION.**—The resumed hearing of the case of the Government v. J. O. Smith & Co. (reported last week, page 609) was taken at the Supreme Court on September 18, when, after hearing argument from counsel on both sides at considerable length, the acting Chief Justice intimated that, as important legal principles were at stake, judgment would be deferred.

**FIRE.**—A serious fire broke out on the premises of Messrs. Adams & Co., chemists, Ladysmith, on September 18. The whole of the stock was destroyed, and only a part of it being insured, the loss will be considerably in excess of 1,000L. This loss must appear doubly hard after having gone through the siege without damage. Mr. Adams will be remembered as the inventor of Chevril.

**HISTORIC BATTLE-GROUNDS.**—Our Natal correspondent who has been on holiday, recently visited the historic battlefields of Colenso and Ladysmith. Those who have not seen the mountainous country from Colenso *via* Pieter's Hill to Ladysmith can have no conception, he writes, of the difficult task which lay before the British troops. Numerous silent witnesses, in the shape of monuments and gravestones, bear testimony to the fallen sons of the Empire.

**THE RECRUDESCENCE.**—Great excitement has been caused, writes our correspondent on September 21, by the action of the Natal Government in calling out portions of the Volunteer Corps for active service. Those ordered out were the Natal Field Artillery, the Natal Carbineers, the Natal Mounted Rifles, the Umvoti Mounted Rifles, and the Border Mounted Rifles. It is just two years ago this month since the Volunteers were ordered out, at the commencement of the campaign. Rumour is rife, and excitement runs high.

**LOCAL POLITICS.**—Natal has gone through the exciting throes of a general election, which took place at the end of September. There is a consensus of opinion that the Natal Customs Union will have to be considerably modified, especially in the reduction of the duties upon foodstuffs. The extension of Natal's territory is one of the subjects which claims a fair share of attention. The development of the harbour; the improvement of the railway system by means of another direct line from Durban to Johannesburg, giving better facilities for the rapid transit of goods; a more satisfactory arrangement for ocean mail and passenger service; the redistribution of seats upon a more equitable basis, which shall give to the commercial community better representation; the vexed question of native labour and importation of coolies from India—are among the chief planks in the political platform. Mr. J. Elwin Marchant, chemist, Verulam, member of the Natal Pharmacy Board, was one of the candidates for legislative honours.

**AN ALARM.**—At 5.30 on the morning of September 14, writes a Johannesburg correspondent, the alarm went—three shots from a field-piece in the fort, and three hoots from the mines. No civilians were allowed in the streets until 8.30. The Rand Rifles had assembled in uniform with arms and ammunition by 6.30 at their various centres. In the ranks was every loyal Rand chemist, with his rifle at

"attention," ready for whatsoever might happen. The only stipulation they made was that they would have no connection with the ambulance, the experiences of those with the R.A.M.C. during twenty months of the war having settled that. Each locked his pharmacy up that morning, and put a notice on the door "Called out on military service." They were detailed for sentry-duty in the trenches and outposts round the outskirts of the city, and relieved the Welsh Regiment at the fort. Of the mounted and foot 400 went to the Springs and Kleinfontein G. M. Coy. (thirty-five miles) with another force strong in cavalry and guns, where Mr. Louis Botha, with a commando of 3,000, was expected to interview them; but the latter did not put in an appearance. After four days the regiment was released from active service. Almost the only stores open of any description during that time were foreign chemists'. Two or three of the R.R. chemists are rather crack shots, and they are all game, although it was observed that those who had had no previous service did not take kindly to the bully and biscuits.

**JOHANNESBURG SUPPLIES.**—From July 15 until August 30 only foodstuffs were allowed to be sent up to Johannesburg from the coast. During the week beginning September 1 all deserving chemists were allowed to import  $\frac{1}{2}$  ton to 2 tons of goods. The Johannesburg chemists complain that the wholesale prices at the coast and at Johannesburg are about the same, while in the former case, railway carriage, duty, and clearance have to be added. English manufacturers are sending new price-lists with wonderfully cheap quotations. The parcels post is re-opened with the United Kingdom and the Colonies, but not with foreign countries. In order to get goods sent up the chemist must make out an invoice and request to his shipping-agent in triplicate, and hand these to the Director of Civil Supplies, on Mondays only, from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. If the application is favoured the Director of Civil Supplies returns one to the chemist, stamped and granted, posts another to the shipping-agent, and retains the third. From the granting of the permit to the receipt of the goods a period of about two months generally elapses. The approximate weight of each case must be given as thus:—

54 cases effervescent saline	...	...	...	120 lbs.
82 "	carbolic powder...	...	...	90 "
84 "	malt with cod-liver oil...	...	...	120 "
62 "	lint, pessaries, footpowder	...	...	80 "
103 "	assorted pills	...	...	150 "
2 "	drugs	...	...	220 "
2 "	dispensing-bottles	...	...	300 "
2 "	patent medicines	...	...	300 "

The foregoing items are extracted from a triplicate list, signed by the Deputy-Director of Civil Supplies, giving permission for the transit by rail of goods from Durban to Johannesburg, up to 1 ton. With the exception of Messrs. Martlew, Kidd, Smith, Scruby, and Dukes, all the chemists are again open in Johannesburg.

**A SUCCESSFUL SHUFFLE.**—At Queenstown a case has been decided in the Supreme Court in which Dr. Louis Weigert Sterne, a civil surgeon attached to the R.A.M.C., sued the Mayor, Councillors, and townsmen of Queenstown for 211L. for professional services. Plaintiff undertook gratuitously to inspect all natives arriving at and departing from the town as a precaution against plague, until his Commandant ordered him to desist. The Council then advertised for a man to do the work for 3L. 3s. daily. There were no applications, and the Council asked the permission of the Commandant for plaintiff to continue the work, which was granted. Plaintiff then entered on his duties, expecting to receive the advertised payment. He held a diploma as a physician of Columbia College, New York, and was licensed to practise in the Transvaal, but not in Cape Colony. Counsel for the municipality urged that under Sections 26 and 61 of the Medical and Pharmacy Act, the plaintiff was barred from recovering, as he was not licensed in the colony. Mr. Justice Hopley hoped the municipality were not trying to shuffle out on such a point, but would pay the plaintiff what his services were worth. Counsel persisted that plaintiff could act as a medical officer in his Majesty's service, but not otherwise. Mr. Justice Hopley said it was a matter of commercial honesty as to whether the Council made the arrangement with Dr. Sterne, but as a matter of law, whatever his sympathies for the plaintiff might be, the Pharmacy Act prevented him from recovering.

## Australasian News.

Chiefly from "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia," September 1, 1901. 6d. per copy, post free.

**PAIN-KILLER TRADE-MARK.**—The Davis & Laurence Co. (Limited), Canada, brought a suit against Mr. G. S. C. Wells, chemist, George Street, Sydney, to restrain him from infringing their trade-mark "Pain-killer." The defendant, who did not appear, consented to a decree, which was accordingly made.

**SUBSIDY-HUNTING.**—The Registered Pharmacists' Society of New South Wales sent a deputation on August 16 to the Premier, asking him to place the Society on the same footing as the Pharmaceutical Society in respect of subsidy, which happens to be the use of the Pharmacy Board rooms free. The Premier is instituting inquiries.

**FORMULA ON LABEL.**—Dr. Ham, Commissioner of Public Health, Queensland, in a report on preservatives and adulteration of food, suggests that "in the interest of the purchaser the formulae of such preparations [patent medicines] should be clearly printed on the label, as the public at present purchase these drugs in more or less ignorance of the contents."

**DIVIDING THE EXAMINATION.**—At the annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland in August, some discussion took place as to the advisability of dividing the qualifying-examination. Mr. Watkins, President of the Pharmacy Board, said his experience as an examiner was that the examination, as at present conducted, is too great a strain on the candidates. Mr. J. W. Ward advocated division of the examination as a preventive of cram. Other speakers advocated an intermediate examination, and Mr. Clapperton suggested a Major one for those who aspire to the honour and glory of a scientific examination, a Minor one being sufficient, in his opinion, to ensure good chemists and druggists.

**SHOP-HOURS.**—The New Zealand Shops and Offices Bill which is before the House of Representatives is being opposed by the pharmacists of Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin. The Bill prohibits the employment of assistants for more than fifty-two hours a week, or more than nine hours in any one day. Shops are to be closed at 6 P.M. and for a weekly half-holiday. A clause also prohibits the acceptance of premiums with apprentices. The master-chemists and the assistants and apprentices have had meetings in Wellington, and agreed that fifty-four hours as a week's work for an assistant would be fairer, and that 8 P.M. be the compulsory closing-time for chemists' shops on the four days in the week other than Saturday and the statutory holiday. An interview with the Hon. W. C. Walker, the Minister in charge of the Bill, is to be arranged if possible.

**A NEW SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS BILL.**—was introduced into the Legislative Council of South Australia on August 14. Some of its provisions are very sweeping in character. "Drug" is defined as "any substance used for or in the composition or preparation of medicine for internal or external use, and includes any antiseptic or cosmetic." It is provided that the B.P., 1898, be for all purposes the Pharmacopœia in force in South Australia, and drugs included in that book or medicines compounded with any official drugs must comply with the tests there given. Another clause makes it an offence to be in possession of any article of food or drug in such a state that its sale without notice to the purchaser would be an offence against the Act. Power is given to the Governor to declare what antidotes for poisons should be stated on packages of poison when sold. In another clause it is made an offence for a person "to sell or have in his possession or exhibit or offer for sale as olive oil, salad oil, or virgin oil any oil or substance not solely composed of olive oil." For the purposes of the Act, "an invoice is to be deemed to be a warranty without the addition of express words of guarantee." These and many other points will need to be watched very carefully by the pharmacists of South Australia.

## East Indian News.

THE ARMY AND NAVY STORES are to open their Calcutta business early in December.

**MR. THOS. STEPHENSON.**—Ph.C., F.C.S., is severing his connection with Phillips & Co. (Limited), Bombay and Poona, and leaves for home the first week in November.

**HOSPITAL STORES.**—The Government has accepted the main recommendations of the Indian Hospital Stores Committee, amongst them the importance of the provision of aerated-water factories. The question of general adoption of x-ray apparatus is already under consideration.

**LINSEED AND RAPESEED CROPS.**—The final forecast of the linseed and rapeseed crops in the North-West Provinces estimates an outturn of pure linseed amounting to 75,780 tons, showing an increase of 2,513 tons over the last year's estimate, in consequence of the enhanced acreage which is believed to have been sown. The estimated outturn of pure rapeseed amounts to 24,060 tons, as compared with 21,186 tons estimated last year. These figures do not include the yield of the oilseed-crops which are sown in combination with other rabi crops, and for which no estimate can be made.

**PUNJAB REPORTERS AND TEMPERANCE.**—Shorthand-writers in the Punjab are very scarce, complains an Indian newspaper, while accurate reporters are still more so. We have received a most unintelligibly written report of a special meeting of the Rajendra Club, Patiala, which conveys the idea that the President of the Committee at a "very full" assembly addressed the members on the momentous question of temperance. He announced that in future the only drinks obtainable at the club would be effervescent drinks such as lemonade, seidlitz, and Ero, while on special festival days Hunyadi might, as a treat, be included. A feeling of resentment in certain members' faces was but too painfully apparent, yet with the usual bow of submission to the ruling power, a smiling assent was unanimously recorded.

**THE CEYLON POISONS ORDINANCE.**—referred to in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of August 31, has been enacted to regulate the possession and sale of poisons. It was approved by the Governor on August 14, and has since been published. The general effect of the measure was stated in the article before mentioned, and we need only add that the Poisons Schedule consists of the following articles:—

Arsenic and its preparations	Ergot of rye and its preparations
Prussic acid	Datura and its preparations
Cyanides of potassium and all metallic cyanides	Carbolic acid
Strychnine and all poisonous vegetables	Oxalic acid
Alkaloids and their salts	Chloroform
Aconite and its preparations	Belladonna and its preparations
Emetic tartar	Essential oil of almonds, unless deprived of its prussic acid
Corrosive sublimate	Opium and all preparations of opium or of poppies
Cantharides	
Savin and its oil	

The Ordinance repeals a similar and less drastic one passed in 1878.

**A LARGE QUANTITY** of honey has been produced in the Elsinore valley, California, during the past summer, and several consignments have been sent direct to Glasgow, Scotland.

**THERE** are five soap factories in operation in Seychelles, and the value of soap exported, which was 56,923r. in 1898, and fell to 30,562r. in 1899, rose last year to 36,010r. There are also six mineral-water factories and one ice factory.

**POISON IN THE ELECTRIC TRAMCAR.**—This is the latest scare. It comes from Paris, where a number of passengers in an electric tramcar were seized with poisoning symptoms the other day. The indisposition of the travellers is said to have been due to poisoning arising from the action of sulphuric acid on the lead of the accumulators.

## Colonial and Foreign News.

**WON'T LEAVE HOME.**—It is reported that Professor Theodor W. Richards, of the Harvard University, Boston, U.S.A., has been offered the newly created post of professor of inorganic chemistry at Göttingen, but that he has refused the offer, having been earnestly persuaded to remain in his own country.

**THE MOLINEUX POISONING SENSATION.**—The Court of Appeal at Albany has granted the application for a new trial made by Roland Molineux, who is at present in Sing Sing Prison under sentence of death for the murder by poisoning of Mrs. Kate Adams. The poison (cyanide of potassium) is alleged to have been administered in a bottle of bromo-seltzer.

**FREE HEALTH ADVICE.**—The German National Health Society proposes establishing hygienic information bureaux at three different parts of Berlin. At these on two days in the week information and advice will be given on all questions appertaining to the maintenance of health, such as seasonable dress and food; the healthiest ways of living, sleeping, and cooking; to what extent athletic exercises (as bicycling and skating) should be indulged in; how to ward off influenza, and kindred subjects.

**WHAT THE CHINESE PRESCRIBE.**—At the Shanghai Police Court recently a curious object was handed up to the Bench for inspection. It was contained in a square yellow box, and resembled nothing more than a piece of black wax, ringed on the underside, where it had evidently been attached to a larger mass, with a number of whitish concentric circles. It weighed about 2 oz., and the policeman who had charge of the case with which it was connected, explained to the Court that it was Chinese medicine compounded of monkeys' toe-nails boiled down and hardened by being buried underground for a number of years. The piece produced was worth \$115, and had been stolen from a native apothecary's shop in Nanking Road. The thief was put forward to answer for its abstraction, and the apothecary was in attendance to identify the strange specific as his property, which he eagerly did, and seemed very glad to have it restored to him. The thief denied having stolen the medicine, and said he had only taken it away from the shop with the apothecary's approval to see if it was the genuine article. But the detective stated that when the prisoner was arrested he said he had never seen the thing at all, and had never had it in his possession. It was only when his house was searched that the medicine was recovered. Prisoner was sentenced to 300 blows. Monkey's toe-nails, it appears, is a well-known remedy among the Chinese for stomach-troubles.

**THE PROPOSED NEW GERMAN TARIFF.**—The Hamburg Chamber of Commerce has submitted to the committee of the city of Hamburg for commerce and shipping an elaborate report on the new German tariff. The Chamber expresses its strong desire that the scheme may not obtain the assent of the Legislature. It would prefer that negotiations for new commercial treaties should be initiated on the basis of the present tariff or that the present treaties should simply be prolonged for another period of ten or fifteen years, since they have been of the greatest advantage to German commerce and industry. The report points out that the commission to which the preparation of the new tariff was entrusted did not contain an adequate representation of the non-protectionist, commercial, and industrial interests. The manner in which the business of the commission was conducted led to the presentation of demands for protective legislation by the champions of special industries. The German Chambers of Commerce were not consulted in connection with the preliminary labours of the commission, and its proceedings were kept secret, even from these representative bodies. It was thus rendered impossible for the Chambers of Commerce to adopt measures for exposing the erroneous character of many of the representations to which the tariffs commission gave effect in their scheme. The report finally describes the tariff scheme as constituting the greatest danger which has menaced the economical prosperity of Germany for many years.

## Business Changes.

A BRANCH pharmacy has been opened by Boots (Limited) at 31 Knowsley Street, Bolton.

MR. W. HARRIS, chemist and druggist, has opened a business at 2A Landor Road, Clapham, S.W.

MR. G. H. LLOYD, chemist and druggist, is opening a business at Swan Shop, Solva, Pembrokeshire.

MR. E. ERNEST JACKSON, lozenge-manufacturer, Crediton, has opened a branch at 291 Kingsland Road, E.

MR. F. WEST, chemist and druggist, has taken over "Winton's Drug-stores," at 39 George Street, Richmond, S.W.

MR. ALBERT H. CARPENTER, chemist and druggist, has purchased the Haydon Drug-stores, 177 Haydon's Road, South Wimbledon.

MESSRS. BOOTS (LIMITED) are removing from their present address in Taff Street, Pontypridd, Glam., to new premises at 86 Taff Street, Pontypridd.

MR. W. O. DAVIES, chemist and druggist, Llantrisant, has bought the business lately carried on by Mr. E. J. Matthews at 15 The Arcade, Pontypridd.

MR. J. COFMAN NICORISTI has acquired the premises at 41 Hart Street, Bloomsbury, W.C., which he will open as a pharmacy as soon as alterations are completed.

LEWIS'S (LIMITED), of Market Street, Manchester, have disposed of their chemist's stock, and the fittings have been removed. Presumably drugs and drapery are not compatible.

## Marriages.

**BAKER—ALEXANDER.**—At the Queen's Hotel, Dundee, on October 14, by the Rev. W. M. Tocher, B.D., and the Rev. D. D. MacLaren, B.D., Charles Frederick Baker, of Messrs. Smith, Stanistreet & Co., pharmaceutical chemists, 9 Dalhousie Square, Calcutta, third son of the late George Frederick Baker, of Hitchin, Herts, to Catherine Robina Ross, only daughter of the late Robert Ross Alexander, Barnagore Manufacturing Company, Calcutta, and of Mrs. Alexander, of West March, Monifieth.

**GORDON-SALAMON—CARSON.**—On October 15, at St. Andrew's, Westminster, by the Rev. H. Boswell Chapman and the Hon. and Rev. J. Stafford Northcote, vicar of St. Andrew's, A. Gordon-Salamon, F.I.C., to Marion Mabel, daughter of James Alexandra Carson, of Ashley Gardens.

**MENNIE—LINDSAY.**—At 8 India Street, Edinburgh, on October 9, by the Rev. J. R. Robertson, James Mennie, chemist and druggist, Golspie, to Alice, youngest daughter of the late James Lindsay, Golspie.

## Deaths.

**DARTON.**—At Clare Lodge, Woodford, on October 13, Francis Arthur, son of Mr. Francis Arthur Darton, St. John Street, Clerkenwell. Aged 17.

**HUCKLEBRIDGE.**—On October 12, as the result of a bicycle accident near Cuckfield, Sussex, Mr. Philip Hucklebridge, chemist and druggist. Aged 44. Mr. Hucklebridge was the senior partner in the firm of P. & W. Hucklebridge, chemists, 116 Ebury Street, Eaton Square, S.W. The business was founded in 1841 by the father of the late Mr. Philip and of Mr. Wilfred Hucklebridge, the remaining partner.

**IRELAND.**—At Glasgow, on October 2, Mr. William Ramage Ireland, chemist and druggist. Aged 34.

**THORP.**—At Altringham, on October 5, Mr. Walter Thomas Thorp, chemist and druggist, late of Glossop. Aged 30. Death occurred from peritonitis after only a few days' illness. Mr. Thorp was the son of Mr. Walter Thorp, J.P., of Glossop, and had previously been in business at Oldham, where he began the manufacture of the "Paradox" specialities.

## Winter Session.

### Chemists' Assistants' Association.

THE opening meeting of the session was held on October 10, when an inaugural address was given by the President (Mr. J. W. Peck). Mr. S. C. G. TWEDY read the minutes of the last general meeting, and announced the following gentlemen as the officers and Council for the ensuing year:—President, J. W. Peck; Vice-Presidents, H. S. Coupland and A. Latreille; Hon. Vice-President, J. A. Dewhirst; Hon. Treasurer, C. J. Strother; Hon. Secretaries, S. C. G. Tweedy and R. E. Lownsborough; Council, T. Barker, F. Curry, F. W. Gamble, W. Garsed, H. Hymans, W. Matthews, and C. E. F. Vallet.

The PRESIDENT proposed several gentlemen for membership, and said there was every indication of a most successful session. Proceeding to his address Mr. Peck, after referring to the loss to the Association by the removal of Mr. J. A. Dewhirst and Mr. T. Morley Taylor, said it was a pleasing feature that those who have been active members of the Association, when called away for various reasons, never lost their kindly interest in the welfare of the Association—a testimony to its usefulness as a social as well as a scientific institution. Although it might seem almost unnecessary to refer to the objects and aims of the C.A.A., after it has lived through a quarter of a century, he found that at the first session in the new century to a large number of the newer chemists' assistants who have migrated from provincial towns to the great Metropolis the C.A.A. is almost, if not quite, unknown. This is due chiefly to their not reading the journals of pharmacy, by not having them placed before them while apprentices by intelligent masters, and often by a lack of interest in their profession. These are the men wanted as members. The qualified men and the very busy ones can generally find time for relaxation or thoughtful discussion at the meetings, while the others have nothing before them but to drift into discontent, live their own lives, and generally be the cause of so much apathy that weakens the cause of pharmacy. Employers affirm that it adds very much to their mutual benefit if the assistant belongs to an Association which has for its object the welfare of its individual members—the progress of pharmacy to betterment in conjunction with scientific and social influences. The assistant of to-day is the master of to-morrow, and if he has no ideas of his own now worth giving to others, or has no thought for the

#### GENERAL WELFARE OF HIS FELLOW CHEMISTS,

then it augurs bad for the future employer and the position of the chemist. And if he has ideas, then his solitariness will do little to foster them; let him come out of himself into the crowd, and be, perhaps, like the rose growing on the sands near Tenby—that by itself is but a tiny plant of 3 inches or 4 inches high, but when in the company of its fellows in a crowd grows six times as high. "And we want our Titans," said the President, "in pharmacy—our seers—who can look ahead at least five or six years."

When Charles Darwin first grasped the meaning of living things and dead, with that idea of the millions of years this earth and man had been in the making, he had almost a feeling of revulsion—but for a moment only—at the idea of doing anything for man's enlightenment and improvement. The chemist is not now like the man of a few generations back whom Bramston speaks of—

Behind the physician sneaks  
Another mortal, not unlike himself,  
Of jargon full, with terms obscure o'ercharged,  
Apothecary called, whose foetid hands  
With power mechanic, and with charms arcane,  
Apollo, god of medicine, has endued.

These are not the days of pharmacy to be called the handmaid of medicine; it is an expression that should die. It is true only as the house-builder to the house-designer. The old apothecary—handmaid—maid-of-all-work—was often kicked as such. The work of a chemist to-day, with the love of science and a fine commercialism running in his veins, is the most honourable. Dr. Whewell says: "Art is the parent, not the progeny, of science"; and I can see the

pharmacist with the inquiring mind using his art in the professional and commercial world, with a clear purpose in view—perhaps a tiny cloud on the horizon—in the future towering above the disquieting rumours of decadence and decay, foremost in the ranks. Now it is for chemists to consolidate, to keep their profession a noble one, and themselves more worthy of it. It is given to few in any department of life to strike deep into auriferous veins or draw from the storehouses of Eldorado, and we have no reason to suppose that the few are any the happier.

Descartes was once asked where his library was. "There," said he, pointing to his laboratory and dissecting-room; and it is in the practical work of business life and the laboratory that we learn our best lessons. In work for business and work for research there is little to distinguish really—the one is the sooner transmitted into yellow metal, while in the other it is laying up a store that is bound to reap its reward. There was a quite unknown man suddenly shot into fame to the first rank as an historian, but the reason for it was that Motley had worked laboriously year in and year out in the libraries of the old and the new world. Doré became almost as suddenly famous, and his secret was that he had spent years of his life in the hospitals and in his studio, and with his brush made more famous the wondrous pen of Dante. Our lives are in our own hands to make or to mar. Every man's life is painted

#### ON A BACKGROUND OF CIRCUMSTANCE

—he puts in the figures, and tones the high lights himself. Mr. Peck then drew attention to the conditions of the prizes mentioned in the Association's prospectus, and hoped there would be claimants for the silver medals and prizes offered. To the student at college, he said, the athletic field is an absolute necessity, and to those engaged so much during the day the society of friends is just as much a necessity. The nature of a chemist's profession and the method of serious thought he has to pursue make it impossible to have that freedom with others that he can have with men of his own calling, and the specialising that is going on tends to separate men more and more from each other. He, therefore, urged more sociality at the Association's meetings. It had been suggested to make the meetings into a club, and there was no reason whatever why they should not have a scientific lecture or a debate. He should like to see sufficient members to have in connection a ramblers' club, a microscopic section, and a photographic or cycling or football club. He urged, with Herbert Spencer, that since co-operation will promote both general welfare and individual prosperity, the activities called into play by co-operation will eventually become pleasurable. "Influences favourable to mental expansion are also favourable to moral equity." An association will be strong if its members are strong; and what a sphere of usefulness it can be! As an illustration of what a power and how useful to individuals and country a social organisation can be, he cited Freemasonry—the promoter of education, the friend of liberty, and the preserver of history and literature. When man has gained more knowledge of our brain forces, and learnt the power of physical radiation (continued the President), and followed the saying of the ancient Greek Thales—"Know thyself"—it follows that physic will be little needed. Perhaps then chemists' assistants will have a social club for mutual condolences and friendly intercourse, or perhaps the study of "Adversity's sweet milk, philosophy." And the brain mechanism, wonderful as it is, cannot yet manage to obtain that healthy relaxation given by social intercourse without the material world as we see it entering into the contract. Home study is all very well, but it tends to cramp the mind. "Of the making of books there is no end," but it is a failing of the English nation that it has given few facilities for practical work or for ensuring sound training to fit the student for battling over the hills of life. In the programme for next session one evening is to be devoted to impromptu discussion, and many opportunities will be given for discussion preceding the lectures, which might be aptly called mental athletics.

In conclusion, the speaker said he had often thought that in the early years, before store-trading and suchlike cut-throat business came into vogue, if the C.A.A. had really made up its mind in the matter, and had considered it very carefully, foreseeing the disasters following, something

might have been done. He believes the C.A.A. could have been what Meredith succinctly calls "a breathing Boreas in an Etna." It could have framed some preventive measure, with its youthful animation, and made no little stir on earth—if it had made up its mind. But, alas! it is too late now to talk of the principles of "stamping-out" or "isolation." We have no cure for the effects of bad drugs and unscrupulous traders or, unfortunately, inadequate laws. Could not the C.A.A. have tried to get a system whereby drugs of any kind could be sold only by qualified chemists? John Bull is slow to move, and perhaps would not move at all for any proposal restricting free trade—but was it tried? There are many important questions for the C.A.A. to take up now for discussion, remembering that if we are not going forward we must be going backward—there is no standing still. The preliminary meeting, as announced in the programme, had not been held that evening. It was an innovation which the Council hoped would be productive of very good results. Members had very often some question to ask which had cropped up in the course of their work, concerning, perhaps, some new drug or photographic progress, of interest to chemists generally. Hitherto there had been no opportunity of discussing such matters and for asking questions. This preliminary meeting was intended for ordinary discussion on any topic, and he hoped that members would come prepared with subjects for discussion.

Mr. LATREILLE, in proposing a vote of thanks, said the speaker had given them some good home truths, and that the address would compare very favourably with those of past Presidents. He endorsed the President's appeal for greater sociability amongst themselves. He felt that this was a great want for which there was no apparent reason. The arrangement for an informal discussion before the commencement of the meetings would perhaps introduce a more friendly spirit by bringing members into closer touch with one another; at any rate, it was well worth trying.

Mr. TWEEDY seconded, and thanks were enthusiastically and unanimously accorded in the usual manner.

### Liverpool Chemists' Association.

ADVANTAGE was taken of the presence of the Local Conference of the Pharmaceutical Society in Liverpool to hold the annual dinner of the Liverpool Chemists' Association at the same time. The company assembled at the Exchange Station Hotel on Thursday evening, October 10. Among those present were the President of the Pharmaceutical Society (Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme), Councillors Dr. Symes, Rymer Young, and Taylor, also Dr. Paul, Messrs. Harold Wyatt, jun., J. Herbert Evans, W. Wellings, A. S. Buck, E. Davies, T. F. Abraham, R. C. Cowley, J. Bain, J. Hodson, Prosper H. Marsden, R. G. Smith, J. J. Smith, T. H. Swinton, T. H. Wardleworth, and others.

After the usual loyal toast had been duly honoured, Mr. J. RYMER YOUNG proposed the toast of the "Liverpool Chemists' Association." In his opinion it was the leading local association in pharmaceutical matters, and he made a point of reading its papers and discussions, as they were always of practical value, and especially so in the case of its worthy President, whose ability and capacity were well known.

The PRESIDENT, in reply, said that the members of the craft should not labour under the impression that the subjects were all as dry as pharmaceutical politics, they frequently were of deep interest and of great value to the student as well as the matured pharmacist. He was aware that the chemists of Liverpool had many grievances, and here was a place where they could be well aired. He urged the chemists of the district to record their dispensing experiences and contribute them to the Association, as they would constitute a most valuable record.

Mr. A. S. BUCK asked those present to join him in the toast of the "Pharmaceutical Society." Whatever might be said of the past it could not now be said that it was inactive. Acting on instructions from headquarters he had recently visited all the institutions where dispensers were employed, and he was glad to report that in no case had he found an unqualified person employed—a very satisfactory result. In one place, however, he found the storekeeper was paid a higher salary than the dispenser. The toast having been heartily responded to, Mr. G. T. W. NEWSHOLME said he appreciated on behalf of the Council all the kind things that

had been said. He was afraid some misapprehension existed as to the working of the new scheme for the registration of students. It would be found—he was of opinion—that the

### SCARCITY OF APPRENTICES

was a matter which would right itself soon, as under the new regulations the students were delaying sending their certificates in until the last moment, as they had not to tender them at first as under the old method. Patience must be exercised, and in a few years the matter would adjust itself. It would never do to lower the standard of education for the pharmacist. As to the subscriptions to the Pharmaceutical Society it was never intended that the divisional Secretaries should collect subscriptions. There should be no mistake about that. The divisional Secretaries were expected to look up and become thoroughly acquainted with the men in their division. That in itself would have a good effect on the funds of the Benevolent Fund. He was agreeably surprised to find so many dispenserships were filled by qualified men, and he thought that the result of the inspection would be more satisfactory than they had any of them expected. He was becoming more convinced than ever that the chemists should observe other callings besides their own. It was the greatest mistake in the world for them to be bound by tradition, and to think that their activities were bounded by the walls of their own shop. His own experience as a member of a poor-law board induced him to believe that the presence of a chemist on many of our municipal councils would be of great public advantage. The pharmacist was always an educated man and familiar as a result of his calling with most sanitary questions. Finally he called upon chemists to help themselves. If they did not they could not expect the governing bodies to help them.

Dr. SYMES paid a tribute to the part Mr. Newsholme had played in instituting the divisional secretaries, and said he had no fear for the Benevolent Fund as the result of the changes. He said that the fund was now giving 10*l.* for every 5*l.* that it used to give years ago—carrying joy and hope into many a home. Mr. RYMER YOUNG also spoke, after which

Mr. T. F. ABRAHAM proposed the toast of "The Guests," to which Dr. PAUL and Mr. E. DAVIES replied.

An excellent programme of music was contributed during the evening by Hollis's orchestra.

### Plymouth Chemists' Association.

THERE was a good attendance at the eighth annual meeting of Plymouth, Devonport, Stonehouse and District Chemists' Association on Wednesday, October 16, among those present being Messrs. W. Herbert Woods (President), G. Breeze, J.P., J. Barge, R. D. Doble, F. W. Hunt, W. Condy U'Ren, C. J. Park, J. Davy Turney, R. F. Roper, F. Maitland, S. A. Perkins, E. A. Hodge, and J. Cocks (Hon. Secretary).

The annual report showed that the present membership of the Association is 123. The Committee regretted that the quarterly meetings have not been so well supported as they might have been. The classes in pharmacy and *materia medica* have been abandoned owing to the lack of interest taken in them by the juniors. The rest of the report dealt with the work of the Association, socially and otherwise, all of which has been dealt with in these pages as it occurred, and the report concluded with a reference to one of the founder-members, Mr. W. Jasper, who has been serving for some time at the front with Steinaker's Horse.

The report of the TREASURER (Mr. J. Barge) showed that there was a balance at the commencement of the year of 2*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*, with which the year's receipts amounted to 19*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*, including the following subscriptions:—Sixty-one senior members, 15*l.* 5*s.*; nine assistants, 1*l.* 3*s.*; four juniors, 4*s.*; and three hon. members, 15*s.* On the expenditure side the largest item was 7*l.* for rent. At the close of the year there was a credit-balance of 1*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.* Mr. Barge regretted that there was a falling-off in the interest taken by the juniors in the Association's educational work, and hoped that the incoming secretary would endeavour to secure a larger attendance at the classes.

### APPRENTICES ON THE DECREASE.

Mr. PARK remarked that classes could not be held in consequence of the small number of students. The number

of apprentices in the Three Towns was now much smaller than three years ago, and the result was that the classes had become unworkable, as there were not sufficient apprentices to meet the expenses even with only a small nominal fee.

Mr. ROPER was of opinion that the Association made a mistake in not availing itself of the opportunity of going to the Technical Schools for these classes. The loss of facilities for the education of apprentices had a contributory effect towards the failure to obtain them. Connection with an official institution of that kind would have been a great incentive to apprentices, and would have been of great assistance in attracting students from country districts.

The PRESIDENT believed the crux of the situation was the stiffer Preliminary examination. Probably boys when starting do not think about the examination, but the parents, on inquiry, found that the boys had almost as much to do as for the Royal College of Surgeons and Matriculation examinations.

Mr. HUNT's experience led him to believe that boys did not like study at all.

Mr. DOBLE said there had undoubtedly been a great falling-off in the number of apprentices. He did not think this was due so much to the increased stiffness of the examinations as to the fact that boys were getting to understand that they could not enter the business without a considerable amount of study; and their parents found that it did not bring in a proportionate amount of gain. This would not be altered by the abolition of the Preliminary examination, or by going back to the old one.

Mr. BARGE considered that one of the great drawbacks in obtaining apprentices was the long hours in the business. In other employments young men found plenty of time for an immense amount of recreation. It would be a great advantage if they could arrange shorter hours.

Mr. COCKS said there were really many more juniors on the books of the Association than appeared from the financial statement.

Mr. DAVY TURNEY moved the adoption of the report, and this was seconded by Mr. PERKINS, and carried.

The PRESIDENT said the balance-sheet was very satisfactory indeed, considering that nothing had been received from outside sources.

Mr. PARK moved the adoption of the balance-sheet. The motion was seconded by Mr. DAVY TURNEY, and carried.

#### THE OFFICERS FOR THE COMING YEAR

were elected as follows:—President, Mr. C. T. Weary; Vice-Presidents: Plymouth, Mr. J. Davy Turney; Devonport, Mr. A. D. Davey; Stonehouse, Mr. J. Cocks; Committee, past Presidents, Messrs. C. J. Park, F. Maitland, and W. H. Woods; Plymouth, Messrs. W. C. U'Ren, F. W. Hunt, and G. Breeze; Devonport, Messrs. M. Johnston and J. B. W. Swainson; Junior Secretaries, Messrs. H. M. Morgan and E. Stephens; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. Barge; Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. Fairweather; Hon. Auditors, Messrs. H. P. Hearder and W. Anstин.

Mr. DAVY TURNEY in complimentary terms proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring President, Mr. Maitland seconded, and Mr. Woods replied. Hearty thanks were also accorded to the retiring Hon. Secretary (Mr. J. Cocks) and the Hon. Treasurer (Mr. Barge), and the scrutineers.

The PRESIDENT tendered the best wishes of the Association to Mr. Hodge, who would return to South Africa on Saturday. Mr. Hodge acknowledged the compliment.

Mr. C. J. Allen (Hodgkinsons, Clarke & Ward) was elected an honorary member, and Messrs. Tillman, A. Crang, and A. E. Pink were elected junior members.

#### Western Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting of this Association was held at the Westbourne Restaurant, Craven Road, W., on October 16, the President (Mr. H. Cracknell) in the chair. In spite of the depressing weather about thirty members braved the elements, and took part in a desultory discussion on things in general.

#### FORMAL.

First of all, the CHAIRMAN read a letter from the family of the late Mr. Henry Long, the founder of the Association,

thanking the members of the Association for the vote of condolence passed at the last meeting. Messrs. Parker and Middleton were then appointed scrutineers to count the votes for the election of the new committee. Then notice of motion was given of the alteration of one of the rules, whereby power was given to alter or amend the rules at a special meeting called for that purpose, instead of having to wait, as hitherto, until the annual meeting. The HON. TREASURER (Mr. J. H. Mathews) then made his statement of the financial condition of the Association, wherein he showed that there was half a guinea deficit on the working of the past year. The balance-sheet was criticised by Mr. MARSH, one of the auditors, who thought the items for printing and stationery excessive, but it was pointed out that during the past session extra circularising had to be done, and this, with extra postage, had brought the amount beyond the normal. The balance-sheet having been unanimously adopted, and Mr. Mathews cheered with an offer to refund him the deficit on the spot (which offer, by the way, he refused to accept), Mr. GLYN-JONES asked what had been done in the matter of forming a

#### REPRESENTATIVE METROPOLITAN ASSOCIATION.

The HON. SECRETARY (Mr. W. J. I. Philp) reported that he had circularised the forty-two London divisional secretaries, and had received twenty-three replies, varying in character and gloomy in tone. The majority thought the idea a good one, but they failed to see how the formation of such an Association as was proposed could be accomplished. The committee had, therefore, decided to do nothing further in the matter, but to leave future steps for the new committee. Mr. GLYN-JONES, who had gone through the letters, thought them distinctly encouraging. He pointed out that the proposition was that the divisional secretaries should be asked to meet the Council of the Association with a view to discussing steps as to the formation of a representative metropolitan association, and he thought the majority of those who had written were favourable to such a proposal. He urged that there would be no harm in getting them together, as an association such as proposed would be a political power of no mean calibre, especially in view of the political agitation which would be necessary on the introduction of the new Pharmacy Bill into Parliament in the coming Session. He suggested that a meeting be held, and that, while divisional secretaries receive special notice, chemists generally be also invited to attend. Mr. HICK thought it should be made clear that, while the Association was inclined to move in the matter, there was no intention of wiping out the Western Chemists' Association as such, even though a metropolitan association were formed. He urged that the W.C.A. be kept intact, and any other association be either independent or subsidiary. Mr. PARKER desired to protest strongly against any alteration in the title of their Association. If a larger Association were required to represent London well and good, but he was quite sure it would not be policy to merge the Western Chemists' Association into any other. Mr. WORSLEY pointed out that there was no such intention expressed in the suggestions made, and Mr. GLYN-JONES repudiated any such interpretation of his remarks. Mr. ALBERT COOPER spoke strongly in favour of extending the advantages of the Western Chemists' Association to others, but Mr. MARTIN-DALE was of opinion that the Association had set themselves a difficult problem. He could see that such an association as proposed by Mr. Glyn-Jones would have great political power, but he was jealous to some extent of the integrity of the Western Chemists' Association, and would not like to see it interfered with. He thought it would be better to let the new committee take the matter into consideration, and try to arrange a meeting of the chemists of the metropolis. Mr. HARRINGTON agreed with Mr. Martin-dale as to keeping their Association intact, but thought if a meeting of Divisional Secretaries were called steps might be taken or suggested to form other Associations in London like their own, and delegates from each of the London Associations might form a representative Council of the metropolitan chemists. It was ultimately agreed, on the motion of Mr. GLYN-JONES, seconded by Mr. ANDREWS, that the new committee be asked to deal further with the matter.

## ELECTION OF COMMITTEE.

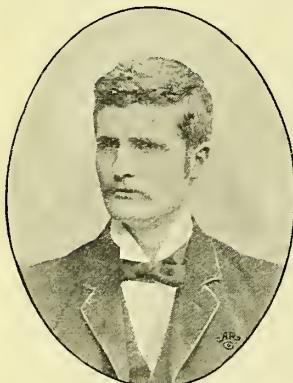
The scrutineers having finished their work, Mr. PARKER announced that the following gentlemen had been elected as the committee for the ensuing year: Messrs. Mathews, Philp, Harrington, Cracknell, Gulliver, Andrews, Bowen, Warren, Cooper, Rogers, and Worsley. Mr. MATHEWS, who was at the top of the poll returned thanks, and Mr. PHILP (who came next) seconded. Thanks to the auditors, Messrs. Marsh and Robinson (who were re-elected), and to the late Executive, followed.

## VALEDICTORY.

The PRESIDENT then made a few remarks in the nature of a valedictory address. He merely reviewed briefly the work of the past session, referring to the discussion on the draft Pharmacy Bill, and expressing regret that it should have been shelved. In speaking of Lord Aveybury's (Shops) Early Closing Bill he reminded the meeting of the almost unanimous vote of the Association against the Bill. For his own part he considered the Bill an unwarrantable attempt at interfering with the liberty of the subject, and hoped it would die a natural death. He concluded with an exordium to the members to be active in getting their fellow-craftsmen to join the Association. It was announced that the next meeting would be at the Café Royal on November 20, when the annual dinner takes place.

### Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society.

THE inauguration of the seventeenth session of the school in connection with this Society was celebrated on Thursday, October 17, by a gathering of chemists and friends, held in the rooms of the Literary and Philosophical Society, Sheffield. The programme consisted of the reading of the report of last session, the presentation of prizes to the successful students, and an address by Mr. John Taylor, of Bolton. Mr. J. Austen, the newly elected President of the Society, took the chair, and amongst those present were Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, Mr. G. Squire, Mr. A. R. Fox, Mr. C. F. Carr, and Mr. H. Antcliffe.



MR. J. AUSTEN.

## THE REPORT

of the pharmaceutical classes held in University College during the session 1900-1901 stated that the classes had been attended with a fair measure of success, but the Council would like to see more students at them. The entries for the classes were nine for chemistry and seven for *materia medica*. The botany class was not held owing to the meagre number of students presenting themselves. Professor Carleton Williams had reported that in the chemistry class one student attended the course up to Christmas, and passed his Minor examination. Four worked steadily throughout the session, while the work of the remaining four was not so satisfactory. On the whole the results were not so creditable as those of last year. The first prize was gained by Mr. T. Tusting-Cocking, and the second by Mr. W. M. Cooper. Mr. Austen reported that of the students attending the *materia medica* class, five worked diligently throughout the session, while two were very disappointing in the progress they made. The attendances at both classes were good. The first prize was awarded to T. T. Cocking, and the second to W. M. Cooper. Mr. B. H. Bentley, M.A., F.L.S., and Mr. A. R. Fox, F.L.S., reported that the collection sent in by Mr. W. M. Cooper had gained the herbarium prize of 2l. 2s. offered by Mr. Newsholme.

The PRESIDENT, in presenting the prizes to the successful students, remarked that the seventeen years which had

elapsed since the Sheffield School of Pharmacy was inaugurated had been, on the whole, prosperous. The Sheffield Pharmaceutical Society had ever been to the front in the matter of education, and when it was formed some thirty-three years ago, one of the first rules was to the effect that apprentices should be helped to pass their examinations by means of lectures. In those days the Council included such men as G. B. Cocking, G. Cubley, W. Ward, the late W. V. Radley, and the late W. M. Hill. They, in 1869, commenced a full course of lectures, which were given by Mr. Preston (on pharmacy and *materia medica*), Dr. Harrison (on chemistry), and Mr. W. Birks (on hotany). These classes went on for some years, but owing to the apathy of students they were discontinued. Later, in 1883, the authorities of Firth College arranged classes to meet the Minor syllabus, but they gave no lectures in pharmacy and *materia medica*, so that in 1885 the local Council again made strenuous efforts to establish a school, and were eventually successful in so doing. There was a large number of students, and it was no uncommon thing to have from twenty-five to thirty in a class. According to the report now read the school was in need of more students, but that was a general cry throughout the country, as very few young men were entering the trade at present. One immediate cause might be found in the fact that there was now a higher standard for the Preliminary examination. Those who now entered the trade must of necessity have passed through this preliminary mill, and consequently should be of better quality and better able to grapple successfully with the other examinations; and he was looking forward to seeing a lower percentage of failures in these examinations. The President then called upon Mr. John Taylor to deliver the

## INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

After a few preliminary words of greeting, Mr. TAYLOR said one of the first things a young man finds in his first touch with life is that ideas and things have names, or labels. He finds himself just as much or more tied down by the names of things as he was at school. Just as our goods reach us from the wholesale duly labelled, duly accepted by us, broken up, re-labelled and passed out for use, so he finds certain forces, customs, or manners, labelled with certain names, and it requires some boldness to examine and if need be set aside these things, or else to re-name them as truth tells. It is so much easier to pass them on to those about us labelled as we got them—lessened in force and meaning perhaps by having been passed through a smaller mind. This thing is called "education," it should be labelled "cramming"; that thing is called "good form," it should be labelled "a weak-minded agreement with fashion." Some of the most potent moral forces are labelled "Not to be touched," lest forsooth you realise their greatness and value, lest your eyes be opened and you see. Labels put upon men some of the strictest limitations they experience.

You will find, too, that labels are changed. Old ones drop out of use, new ones come in. At the general election of 1865 "Reform" was the tag; in 1868 it was "Education." Some day we shall have a brand new label, "National Education." When it comes may it be a veritable Aaron's serpent of labels devouring all that mean anything poorer or less. It was not long before "Education" had its companion and complement in "Technical Education." That is what you are here to obtain. In the shops you do many things involving chemical or physical processes. Here you investigate them and are taught the how and why. You will be tempted to think that if you know "how," you need trouble little about the "why." Do not yield to that temptation. The very essence of technical education lies in the "why" of a process, and he who understands "how" and knows "why" in the making of a thing has in his hands and mind the secret of successful work. If you think of these classes only as ways leading to a successful exit from the examination-rooms, you will miss their fullest value and import. If you look upon them as bestowing that full technical teaching which is impossible in the shop, and use them accordingly, you will find they mean success in the examinations, and much more they mean that you will start out in the fight for wealth or fame with a full mental and manual outfit with which to fight.

## EVERY MAN GETS TWO EDUCATIONS

—one from others, and one from himself. The first education, given from without, performs the first and lesser part of mental instruction. The truth holds good whether you consider education in its general or technical outlook and activity. Books place before you the thoughts and experiences of all the past. Not only in general literature—poetry, philosophy, history, travel, and thought—but as well in special technical experience and research, all the writers who ever lived are among the educators of to-day. Professors and tutors are partners with the past in educating students. What a man learns earliest he remembers longest. The lines of memory cross and recross the brain, the deepest cut are the longest lasting, and you can cut deepest before life with its ten thousand anxieties and clamourings has hardened and injured the receptive faculties. Says a piece of old Latin folklore, "Opportunity has hair in front; behind she is bald: if you seize her by the forelock you may hold her, but if suffered to escape not Jupiter himself can catch her again." Can I put it into plainer English?

But there is a second education—the one you give yourselves. It is the greater and more important of the two. It does not begin when the outwardly given education has finished. It begins with it, and runs alongside. I have called it self-given because without it you are merely instructed—"crammed" in fact. Real education is a leading out and expansion of the mind and intellect, to understand and deal with not only natural laws and phenomena, but also with the problems and duties of citizenship and life. This cannot be done without the consent of your own minds, and the active partnership of your own will. You have placed at your command all the resources and teaching of all the ages. Unless you determine to make them your own they are nothing to you.

It reads, then, that you will try to develop your mind by study and thought as distinguished from mere listening. Others may tell, but unless you digest and assimilate mere waste will follow. Nay, worse than waste, for that part of you which ought to be dealing with these matters will not be idle, it will be busied with other and worse things. This thought brings into view the true nature and scope of self-given education. It cannot be limited to material facts or technical matters. It concerns all that you are or may be. It seeks to understand all the development that is possible to you as men, and that understanding gained, resolutely set to work to bring it to a full position.

If you are not careful you may be led into the error of thinking that education is the one-sided narrow article offered too frequently under the label. Do not keep all your scepticism for questions relating to the supernatural. Apply some of it to the things of to-day. When an idea or custom comes your way, tear off the label and examine it for yourselves. When a proposition is stated, do not accept and repeat it parrot-like. Bend yourselves body and mind to understand it through and through, and this course constantly followed will give you an education better than any formulated in a syllabus, for it will be self-given. Remember, the doubts of to-day are the foundations on which the men of to-morrow will build, and do not be deterred from self-examination of facts or statements because others swallow them freely.

Having referred to the advantages of habits of observation and examination, Mr. Taylor proceeded to speak of

## ENVIRONMENT.

Everyone, he said, has two environments—one general, one special. The special one is made up of his home, his friends, his trade or profession in life: yours is pharmacy, what are its features? A lengthy period of arduous study, demanding an intellect of considerable strength; a physical constitution capable of standing daily many hours of trying, if not heavy, work; a constant dealing with small quantities, small transactions, tending, if not checked, to narrow and belittle one's grasp of the larger questions of life; a certain amount of loneliness; and the certainty that, from a money point of view, the rewards are small. But these things are not the only environment of pharmacy. One great advantage of self-education or self-culture is that it

reveals to a man what he is most fitted for. He may find, and often does, that he is better fitted for some other walk in life than that he has chosen. If this comes time enough—and it will if you carefully develop your qualities—you may change your circumstances, and, like many pharmacists before you take up other—I will not say better—ways of earning your bread more in keeping with the genius of your minds.

I will assume that you have means enough to save your becoming victims of a hard bargain, that you are, in fact, in a position to drive a fair bargain with those who will employ you. Then it rests with you very largely to say what shall be your surroundings. During the student stage one should have time for study and recreation, and, when qualified, stand out for such conditions of service as will enable you to live out the ideals of self-development. Only so can you retain studious habits. The future of pharmacy is in your hands and of those of such as you in more senses than one. We hear of the want of inducements for men to enter our ranks. But if those who hold at present the lower positions will sell their labor only for reasonable terms and fair reward, the inducements will be greater than easy examinations or a low intellectual standard can make them. Do not let salary be the only or the main deciding factor when choosing a situation, for it is of equal importance that the moral and mental environment be such as will help you to rise.

One feature in the pharmaceutical environment is a great gain. It is that much of the work, even some of the drudgery, lends itself to self-education and development. The grocer, the draper, the ironmonger, and many others of the shopkeeping class can teach us on many points. We are among the smaller fish of the ocean of commerce. But I count it no light thing that in our studies we are brought into close touch with the forces and processes of nature. Even the human side is not left untouched, for I take it that in studying *materia medica* you will be no worse if your thoughts go from the actual drugs to the lands whence they come and the men who cultivate or gather them. Read for instance in "Kim" Kipling's description in the Llama's travels of the home of the musk-deer and the men who shoot it, and I think the next time you weigh out the precious grains they will have a new interest for you. Chemistry and physics will teach you the nature or action of molecular force, beside which the whirlwind has only the strength of a child—make it something more than a string of equations, put some imagination into it. You will be none the worse chemists, and you will have gained an interest in a difficult study which will vastly lighten the task of mastering the science.

## WHY DO MANY FAIL IN BOTANY?

Because it is regarded often as a needless subject of no money value. You will not think that if you will realise that under the seven-leagued words that abound therein you are dealing with living organisms in whose origin and growth are bound the deepest mysteries of what we call "life." Cultivate in your studies a reverent sense of the mystery of things, and botany will become to you peopled with wonderful things which you will be glad to look into for their own sake, and perhaps reach out through them to the mind behind them. Who can tell?

Flower in the crannied wall,  
I pluck you out of the crannies.  
I hold you here, root and all, in my hand.  
Little flower! but if I could understand  
What you are, root and all, and all in all,  
I should know what God and man is.

What is the commercial value of it all? Again, that depends on yourselves. The point is that even this higher study has a commercial value. It will be in proportion to your business instincts and qualities. Mr. Taylor then, in his concluding sentences, counselled his hearers to neglect no opportunity for extending their knowledge of the business, not relying upon others for their advancement, but living their own lives, and helping others all they could.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Taylor was adopted on the motion of Mr. A. R. Fox, F.L.S., seconded by Mr. C. F. CARR. The company dined later on.

### Manchester and North of England Optical Society.

THE annual dinner of this Society took place in Manchester on October 16, Mr. G. Bennett (the President) in the chair. Several pharmacists were amongst the company. The PRESIDENT and several speakers after him gave vent to their aspirations as to making the business of an optician a profession.

### Sunderland Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting of this Association was held in the Grand Hotel, Bridge Street, on Thursday evening, October 10. The following were present: The President (Councillor N. J. Turnbull), Vice-President (Mr. R. H. Bell), the Hon. Secretary (Mr. A. W. Golightly), Messrs. T. Nasbet, R. Robson, C. Hodgson, W. Hudson, G. P. Fairman, C. Ranken, R. Robinson, R. Cherrett, M. J. Todd, J. G. Harrison, and J. Hutchinson (Treasurer). The officers elected for the ensuing year were the same as last. It was decided that the annual dinner of the Association should be held on November 27.

### Dewsbury and District Chemists' Association.

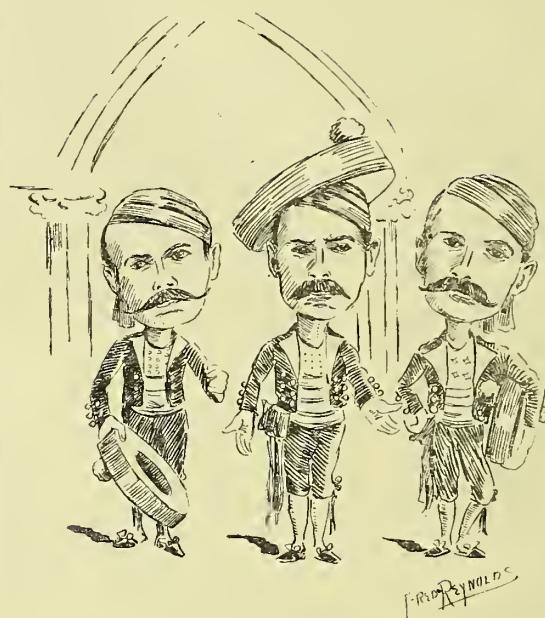
THE members met on Monday, October 14, at the Church House, Mr. W. Stead (President) in the chair. The correspondence included a letter from Mr. R. C. Walshaw, of Huddersfield, asking for information likely to be useful to a meeting of Huddersfield chemists with a view to the formation of an association. The Secretary (Mr. G. Walker) was instructed to supply the desired particulars, and to invite Mr. Walshaw to the annual dinner to be held on Tuesday next. Mr. S. N. PICKARD, of Ossett, introduced a proposal to prepare a syllabus for the session, and urged that lectures might be arranged on scientific subjects, such as bacteriology, botany, or on window-dressing, proprietary articles, dispensing, &c. The feeling of the meeting was that it was too late to arrange a syllabus for the present session, but the offer of Mr. Pickard to read a paper on "The Chemists' Defence Association, its Aims and Objects," and that of Mr. R. Broadhead, of Batley, to give a paper on "Pharmaceutical Politics," were accepted.

### Thefts from Wholesale Druggists.

ON THURSDAY, at the Guildhall, before Alderman Sir George Faundel Phillips, Ernest Edward Clark (33, porter at Messrs. Barron, Harveys & Co., wholesale druggists, Giltspur Street, E.C.), appeared on remand, charged with stealing, during the past twelve months, four bottles of sarsaparilla and other goods. Evidence was given by Henry Worcester, who surrendered to his bail to answer the charge of being concerned with Clark in stealing certain goods from Barron, Harveys & Co. (see page 635). Clark pleaded guilty, and Mr. Gill, who represented Worcester, desired the case against the latter to be settled at that court, and pleaded not guilty. Evidence was given by Detective Sergeant Hallam, who said Worcester rendered him every service. He bore an excellent character, and had been for thirty-four years a "caller-up." The landlord of the Kentish Waggoners, Tabard Street, Borough, identified Clark as the person who brought the parcel to his house. Mr. Roger Harvey recognised the bottles produced as similar to those belonging to his firm. Clark had been in the service of his firm for about twelve years. So far as he knew, he had never been in trouble before. His salary was 1*l.* 1*s.* a week. Mr. Myers (for Clark) hoped the Alderman would see his way clear to deal with this case under the First Offenders Act, considering Clark's long service. He had not taken many things; what he had taken he had sold, as he could not live on his salary. Sir George: What say the prosecution to the suggestion of Mr. Myers? Mr. Musket (for the prosecution): They leave the matter in your hands. Sir George: I take into account the long service of Clark. Still, it is a serious offence, and I should not be doing my duty if I dealt with the case under the First Offenders Act. It is not one of a single robbery, but a series of thefts. Two months' with hard labour. Worcester was discharged.

THE wholesale dépôt of Messrs. B. & G. Alkan & Co. (or the Alkan, Limited), proprietors of the neuralgic cure "Alkan," has been transferred to 150 Strand. We understand that this remedy is now being extensively advertised.

### "C. & D." Nursery Rhymes.



#### Three Brethren of Aldersgate.

THIS is a parody of the old rhyme, "We're Three Brothers out of Spain," hence the costumes in which the artist clothes Dr. Maw, Mr. C. Trentham Maw, and Mr. Mowbray Maw.

Brethren we from Aldersgate,  
Heads of House of ancient date,  
Ne'er a doctor passes by,  
Pharmacists all come to try  
Perfume, patent, powder-puff,  
Soothing cream for skin that's rough,  
Splints or sponges, surgeon's saw,  
Sprays and sundries—hall-mark "Maw."

"Pray, sirs, I have lost a leg!"  
"Sorrow not, dear sir, I beg,"  
Saith the Doctor gravely grim.  
(Legs are paltry things to him.)  
"Gentle sir, I've but one eye!"  
"Nay, dear madam, do not cry,  
Leg or eye, or human flaw,  
Quickly is replaced by Maw."

Brethren tbree, you'll all admit,  
Pat into their places fit;  
Smooth the business wends its way,  
'Neath C.T.'s observant sway.  
Urbane Doctor ne'er repents  
He left drugs for instru-ments.  
Willow-wielding Mowbray's law,  
Bears benignant hall-mark "Maw."

**CONTRA RINDERPEST.**—The spread of rinderpest in Basutoland is causing much uneasiness. The spread of the disease in the Transkeian territories has stimulated the Government of Natal to adopt precautions against its possible introduction into that colony. The southern border of the sister colony has been closed against the introduction of horned stock from the Cape Colony, and guards have been placed upon all the gates and openings in the dividing fence. As a more effective means of checking the disorder the timely use of the prophylactic discovered by Dr. Turner, formerly Medical Officer of Health of the Cape Colony, is urged; and if the Natal Government will but co-operate with the Agricultural Department of the Cape Colony, says a writer in the *Cape Times*, in the distribution and use of the serum, they will do more to prevent the introduction of rinderpest into their colony than thousands of fence and gate guards are able to accomplish.

## Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

### The Irish Pharmaceutical Society,

at its annual meeting last week, unanimously resolved, on the motion of Mr. Kelly, seconded by the President, that the following clause should be added to the Pharmacy Act :—

That no person or persons be permitted to keep open shop for the compounding or dispensing of physicians' or surgeons' prescriptions unless they be trained and educated and have passed a qualifying examination, according to Act of Parliament, for so doing.

This is exactly what is already enacted in the Pharmacy Act (Ireland), 1875. Mr. Kelly says it is not, and explains that what he wants is to prevent what he calls bogus companies from doing what qualified persons are authorised to do. Then why not specifically say so? As Mr. Kelly must know, it is held that a company not being a person was not contemplated by the Pharmacy Acts at present in force, and the Courts say we must submit our grievances against companies to Parliament before asking them to help us. Now, I would like to ask Mr. Kelly, and especially the Irish President, if they are prepared to ask that no company shall under any circumstances keep open a chemist's shop? If they ask that, they ask what they have no chance of getting; if they limit their claim at all, can they fix more reasonable conditions than those which the British Society has agreed to? Would they not secure everything they can fairly claim if the directors of pharmacy-companies were required to be qualified? I submit these queries, not for mere criticism, but in the hope that the two Societies may be persuaded to act together in the parliamentary campaign which they both profess to desire.

### There was an Irish Accent

and a lot of truth in Mr. Conyngham's remark at the annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland that young men coming into pharmacy nowadays have so much to do preparing for examination that they have no time to learn their business. Practising algebra, reading Molière, and sympathising with Virgil's Dido, are not exactly the ideal training for making horseballs or perfuming pomatum. The wonder is that our youths get to know as much of their business as they do, with the threatening spectre of their examinations always facing them during the few short years of their probation. I suppose the youth with natural business aptitude absorbs the really useful part of his shop-instruction unconsciously, and it becomes part of himself without direct effort. The stuff which the examiners require of him he gathers together, and carries as a burden till he gets outside Galen Place. Then he pitches it away, and sets to work with a light heart to earn a living. However interested he may be in square roots and morphology, he cannot afford to indulge in such luxurious encumbrances any longer. The time for the serious struggle has arrived.

### A Pleasant Note of Optimism

comes from Bradford. The President of the Chemists' Association of that town (Mr. Arthur Hanson) expresses the opinion that "the stores have had their day." That view was greeted with a cheer, but whether the cheer indicated agreement or hope I am not quite sure. There is good foundation for it, however. The best paying "drug-stores" in the country are drifting more and more away from the drug-trade. I have seen a rack of *Tit-Bits* and similar papers hanging on the shop-doorpost of one of these stores. It can hardly pay to employ qualified

chemists to hand out these. Then the cost of qualified managers is going up, and will further advance in the near future. This will hit us all, but the companies particularly. A chemist owner can run the business without a certificated assistant; the unqualified company cannot. If it tries to do so Mr. Flux's bill will, or should, swallow up the savings. Lastly, and chiefly, the modern chemist has by this time learned all that the store man can teach him, and knows something besides. With a fair provision of capital the chances are largely in his favour, and this without reckoning the amended Pharmacy Act as an asset at all.

### The Benevolent Fund

is the one department of the Pharmaceutical Society's work which nobody ever cavils at. It is a noble charity, wisely, generously, and economically administered. If every other class in the country showed as much consideration for its poorer members as chemists have done, the old-age pension problem would be well on the way to solution. Perhaps it is as well that once every five years or so the complaint should find expression that the benefits of the fund go too freely to persons who have never helped the Society nor the fund. That sentiment is entertained to a limited extent; but Mr. Carteighe at the last Council-meeting showed, in a few telling sentences, how injudicious, as well as uncharitable, the suggested policy would be. The fund owes its prosperity, he said in effect, largely to its catholicity. And to those who objected that the people who get its aid have often never contributed a shilling to it, nor to the Society which established it, he replied that those persons have very likely suffered and struggled through many weary years, and perhaps have never been in a position to spare a subscription either to the fund or to the Society. I would like to quote one or two figures to show how true it is that the generous policy has been a wise one. In 1866—the fund was not opened to the entire trade until 1868—the subscriptions amounted to 391*l.*. There were four annuitants at 40*s.* a year; two had been added that year, and 144*l.* was distributed in grants. In 1900 the subscriptions amounted to 1,656*l.*, and almost as much was received as interest on invested capital. Forty-three annuitants got 50*s.* a year each, and 779*l.* was distributed in grants. The fund would no doubt have grown even if its application had remained limited; but it is hardly possible to doubt that its astonishing expansion has been very largely influenced by a knowledge of what Mr. Carteighe calls its catholicity.

### Reciprocity of Pharmaceutical Qualifications

will take some arranging. Among the States of federated Australia reciprocity seemed to be recognised as necessary, but I gather from the *Chemist and Druggist of Australasia* that the several Councils cannot agree even upon the preliminaries of a conference. Victoria and New South Wales were willing to start with the admission of each other's registers; but Queensland demanded that this should be open for discussion. Perhaps an even more formidable obstacle has been that the Government will not give free passes to the delegates. This was asked for and refused in New South Wales, but the Victorian Secretary said it was no use asking in his colony, as the Department refused such passes "on any pretence whatever." Not a happy expression, but it is the one he used. The silly jealousy which prevails, not only in Australia, but here also, leads to the absurd result that a person is committing a penal offence for doing on one side of a line what he has been authorised to do on the other side by the Legislature which rules on both sides. If an independent member of Parliament or a Government Department were to introduce a short Bill to settle this difficulty, regardless of anybody's protests, no harm would be done, and conferences and delegates would be saved a lot of trouble.

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## Editorial Comments.

### Light from Liverpool.

AFTER all, the Pharmacy Bill is not dead, and there is no need to fly to any Hibernian solution of the company problem, for the President of the Pharmaceutical Society and several of his Councillors have dragged the Bill out of the slough of summer neglect and presented it to us once more in all its scintillating brightness. It is the Bill, the whole Bill, and nothing but the draft Pharmacy Bill that faces us once more. We give the Liverpool discussion pretty fully on page 665. Our reporters assure us that they could have written many times more, but we asked them to spare us and all pharmaceutical mankind a trial that might stretch to the breaking-point. It seems hard to sacrifice any of the wisdom which flowed from the lips of the Royal Institution orators, for, it will be observed, there was a suggestion that all this public speaking is unwise, since it helps to inform the enemy of what is to be done to overthrow their citadel. Mr. Rymer Young suggested this, and Mr. Bremridge, whose secretarial duties necessarily favour minute-book rather than reportorial methods, cordially approved of the suggestion. It will be noted that Mr. Rymer Young expects to be condemned for so archaic fancies as those to which he gave expression. We would willingly join in his solicitations for mercy, but we are doubtful if it is necessary, because he is not the only one who thinks that it would be much better for "the cause" if some at least of the twaddle that is spoken at these meetings got no further than the four walls in which it is uttered. The game was commenced by the Society's representatives, and we understand that there have been occasions on which

reporters were not admitted to the meetings, but that did not prevent reports being conveyed to the enemy—and not through these pages. By all means let the scheme be reduced to pots of ale and churchwardens, but do not let us delude ourselves into the belief that we shall deprive the enemy of ammunition thereby. We know too well that in this matter of company-pharmacy the enemy is on the defensive, waiting the opportunity of meeting an attack on the floor of St. Stephen's, and it is not the moulding of the shells that troubles them so much as the calibre of the guns which may be used to fire them. As yet we have no guns, and it is questionable if there are any strong enough to take our ammunition. What is that ammunition? The draft Pharmacy Bill was approved by the Council at the March meeting this year, but no arrangements were made for introducing it into Parliament. Neither the Lord Chancellor nor the Privy Council, although appealed to, appear to care for the job of acting as sponsor to it. It is a rather complicated measure of fifteen clauses and a schedule, including some thirty points or principles capable of amendment, therefore to wrangle over. These may, however, be reduced to the following three, the rest being chiefly incidental to them or machinery to enforce the principles:—

I. Each shop kept open for the sale, &c., of poisons and dispensing of medical prescriptions is to be *bond-fide* conducted by a registered chemist and druggist or pharmaceutical chemist; the shop and the conductor thereof must be registered; and it would be unlawful to sell or to negotiate or to participate in the sale by retail of any poison elsewhere than at a registered shop.

II. Joint-stock companies carrying on this business are to be managed by one or more directors who are registered chemists and druggists or pharmaceutical chemists. Such companies may not use the titles "chemist and druggist" and "pharmaceutical chemist" or their equivalents.

III. Power is asked to impose a curriculum, divide any examination, and to accept certificates from other legally constituted pharmaceutical authorities in the British Empire.

The first of these is the "one man one shop" principle already recognised in the Irish Pharmacy Acts, but the provisions there for seeing that it is carried out are much simpler, while the stipulation in the draft Bill as to sales, &c., not being negotiated elsewhere than in a registered shop, is a gratuitous obstacle to the passage of the clause which has no compensation in any advantage it is likely to afford the administrators of the Act. This and other shop definitions in the draft have been imported by the legal advisers of the Society, and we are asked to accept them upon trust as necessary precautions. The second principle is far from being a happy solution of the pharmacy-company evil, for it does not provide for the continuance of the title to those established concerns which for family and other reasons take advantage of the Joint-stock Companies Act, the actual management of the businesses being the same as when they belonged to individuals. As we mentioned last week the Irish Society is approaching the question along these lines, and it is not yet too late to consider if that method is not desirable for Great Britain as well. "The title for the individual" is a popular thing at present, and a just thing, but we need not hide from ourselves the fact that it will be round the title that the hardest fight will rage. We shall have to face the contingency of dropping this principle or of limiting its application, for as it stands at present the disabling provision, which excludes the use of titles by companies, equally hits at firms and co-partnerships; so that it would be as illegal for Dinneford & Co., or Duncan, Flockhart & Co., as firms, to use the titles of their partners as it would be for Boots (Limited) to call themselves "cash chemists." We admit that the opinion is not universally held by lawyers that firms and corporations are not synonymous entities, which is supported by the fact that a partnership of qualified and unqualified individuals can be

struck at by the Pharmacy Act, while a company or corporation similarly constituted cannot be. The acts of the individual are, however, struck at in the former case, while in the draft Bill it is the act or omission of the firm which is placed on a level with that of a company or corporation. As to the third principle, in regard to education and examinations, we need only remark now that the President's speech in Liverpool indicates that this principle is growing in seriousness, so that, although the clause in the draft makes it permissive, it might if enacted quickly become compulsory. Apart from these considerations, the main thing that the trade should consider is that the draft is much too cumbersome for submission to the Legislature. The Lord Chancellor, in his Bills on the subject, adopted much briefer and simpler methods of expression, and accomplished almost as much. We might steal his thunder and improve it.

### Madras Government Cinchona.

THE annual administration report on the Madras Government Cinchona Department for 1900-1901, written by Mr. W. M. Standen, contains much that is interesting and instructive to cinchona-planters and to dealers in quinine. In regard to the financial part of the business, we find that the balance-sheet shows a profit on the year of 41,815r., which, says the Secretary to Government, is satisfactory. The cash receipts during the year amounted to 1,77,101r., or 20,630r. in excess of the receipts of the previous year. These figures are the largest since 1882, when large quantities of bark were sold at a high price on the London market. The increase was chiefly due to the unusually large quantity of quinine sold. The total expenditure was 1,64,409r., the budget estimate being 1,70,000r., but owing to the high-priced bark the full amount provided for the purchase of bark from private planters was not utilised.

The total quantity of bark harvested on the Government estates during the year amounted to 191,414 lbs., or 54,135 lbs. in excess of the previous year's crop. This consisted of 144,106 lbs. crown and hybrid barks, and 50,308 lbs. red barks, and on the average they yielded 2.39 per cent. quinine sulphate. In addition to this, the amount purchased was 167,200 lbs., costing 5s. 1.85p. per lb., and yielding 2.78 per cent. quinine sulphate. Of the total amount, 316,469 lbs. were worked up in the factory, and the alkaloids extracted yielded 7,648 lbs. (122,368 oz.) of quinine sulphate and 2,972 lbs. (47,552 oz.) of febrifuge. The total output was less by 63,928 oz. than in 1899-1900, the reduction in the quinine output being 40,640 oz. The consequence of this reduction has been an increase in the cost of the products obtained during the year. In a *précis* at the end of the report the Government states that "the introduction of a new plant and new system of manufacture somewhat hindered the work of the factory, and the bark worked up proved to be of a comparatively low alkaloidal value, which facts were responsible for the decreased output. The cost of the bark, moreover, was relatively high. These circumstances combined to make the cost of the manufactured quinine 16r. 7a. 0.96p. per lb., and of the febrifuge 3r. 4a. 1.48p. per lb." This is, we may remark, a very high figure for making quinine, being about 1s. 4d. per oz. (2d. under German makers' price to-day), so that it has cost the Madras Government more to manufacture quinine in 1900-1901 than it would have cost to import, say, Howards' quinine from London. Evidently the high cost of the bark and its low alkaloidal value has contributed in a great measure to the high cost of the manufactured product. In view of the above facts it is suggested by the Government whether it is not

feasible to deal more exclusively with rich barks in future, as it costs just as much to work poor stuff. We do not suppose that this is a new discovery by the Indian Government, but, late as the acknowledgment comes, it may yet assist in the growth of richer barks in India, if that is possible. As far as we are aware, the growth of ledger-trees has never been attempted in India by the Java method—growing the ledgers on succirubra-roots—and it is worth while trying.

It is stated that, but for the damage done on the Nedivattam and Hooker estates at the beginning of the monsoon, the plantations did well. Good reports continue to be given in regard to the recent extensions, and the Government remarks that the experiments in grassing the bark and in heavy manuring go to show that the former process will be profitable if the unit be valued at a fraction over a farthing, and that the latter will prove remunerative if the unit-value be about  $\frac{2}{4}d$ . It is added, "The Director will doubtless wait till these results are confirmed by more extended experiments before generally adopting either process in the cultivation of the plantations." This statement, however, does not throw any light on the high cost of the bark. The purchased bark, as already stated, only yielded 2·78 per cent. of quinine, and the price paid for each unit was 1a. 10·24r. ( $1\frac{3}{4}d$ ), which is a high figure for such low quality. It is curious to notice, however, that in spite of the circumstances detailed the total amount of quinine issued was not only the largest on record, but it exceeded the quantity estimated as the normal output of the factory, which is 10,000 lbs. The Government remarks that "it becomes a matter for consideration whether the issues from the factory should not be restricted and regulated." The new and improved machinery which is now in course of erection may turn out quinine at less than 16r. per lb. shale oil is to be used for extraction in place of the dearer fusel oil. The factory does not, of course, attempt to compete with outside makers. Although in the course of last year 6,000 oz. of quinine sulphate in bulk was sold to the public at the rate of 16r. per lb., this practice is to be stopped. The real object of the Indian Government in such work as quinine-making is to utilise to the utmost the internal resources of the country, so as to make it as far as possible independent of outside supplies in cases of emergency. There is no saying when that may be, but it is just as well to be prepared.

### Adulteration in England.

THE report of the Local Government Board for the past year contains some new features in respect to the administration of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, for the amending Act of 1899 came into operation on January 1, 1900, and effected several important changes in the law relating to food adulteration. One of these, it will be remembered, was that the expression "food" includes every article used for food or drink by man, other than drugs or water, and any article which ordinarily enters into or is used in the composition or preparation of human food, including flavouring matters and condiments. The enlargement of the definition of food was a consequence of the legal decision in 1894 that baking-powder was not an article of food within the meaning of Section 2 of the 1875 Act. The report now shows that the total number of samples of foods and drugs analysed in 1900 was 62,858, or nearly 10,000 more than in the previous year. The increase is due to the fact that the 1899 Act compels the local authorities to do their duty more thoroughly than they were wont to, else the Local Government Board or the

Board of Agriculture step in and do it for them at the local expense. The analysts reported against 5,503 of the 62,858 samples examined, and proceedings were taken in 3,321 cases, penalties being imposed in 2,673 of these. The proportions of samples of drugs taken still varies very much in different districts: in Camberwell 57 were taken, in Lewisham 2; in the West Riding of Yorkshire 399 samples were examined, in Lancaster 204; whilst in six counties no samples were taken. The percentage of adulteration in the samples analysed works out at 8·8 against 9·4 in 1899. The number of samples of drugs examined was 2,560, and of these 393 were reported against, a percentage of 15·4. The following table deals with the more important samples examined:

		Examined	Adulterated
Camphorated oil ...	...	385	72
Cream of tartar ...	...	96	11
Magnesia ...	...	129	86 about
Mercurial ointment	...	25	10
Sweet spirit of nitre	...	300	88
Seidlitz powders ...	...	148	14
Phosphate of soda	...	55	14
Sulphur ...	...	181	27

The samples include those taken from chemists along with other shopkeepers; but it is easy to see how deceptive the percentages of adulteration are. The cream-of-tartar cases may be taken away in a body, the adulteration recorded being a second-grade article, which does not correspond with Pharmacopoeial requirements, but is a recognised commercial article, not a drug. Magnesia is another drug which supplies erroneous adulteration figures, due really to ignorance on the part of analysts who contend from chemical knowledge, unsupported by public custom, that "magnesia" is the oxide, whereas the carbonate is in some parts of the country the article demanded by the purchaser. This fact is recognised by some of the most experienced analysts, and a few local authorities have refused to prosecute in cases of the kind. Mercurial ointment and phosphate of soda are instances of a peculiar nature. In the case of the ointment a difference of opinion as to what strength it is safe to supply is really at the bottom of adverse reports. Arsenic in phosphate of soda was one of those extraordinary occurrences for which the retailer was not responsible, and its discovery was the prelude to the great arsenic scare which has led up to the Arsenic Commission. The absence from the British Pharmacopoeia of a test for arsenic in sodium phosphate was, in a sense, at the bottom of the trouble, although actually the use of arseniuretted sulphuric acid in the manufacture of the phosphate introduced the contamination. The arsenic-in-beer cases resulted in thirty-one convictions, with fines amounting altogether to 210l. 10s., one firm alone being fined 100l. The figures given for sweet spirit of nitre are instructive; one would expect a much larger proportion, considering the nature of the drug and the careless way the samples are taken. We wonder how many cases of injustice this one article has been responsible for? In a circular to local authorities the Board give some particulars of the qualifications which analysts in future must possess, from which it appears that a diploma as a registered medical man is accepted as sufficient proof of competency if supplemented with evidence of skill in analytical chemistry. If this class of analysts increases, as is not impossible seeing that the post is associated with the officership of public health, pharmacists will have no more to fear from them than from professional chemists, who are apt to report upon drugs without much consideration of public requirements. There are many

so-called drugs employed for domestic and hygienic purposes of a non-medicinal nature, and retailers know that some risk is attached to the strict observance of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts in such cases. Even in the case of some medicines—for example, methylated liniments—there is something to be said in favour of departure from the strict letter of the law by the sale of such articles at the comparatively low price which the duty-free spirit permits; but the machinery of food and drug inspection does not take price into account, and unless a broad-minded analyst sends with his certificate an explanation of the facts of the matter, his report brands the article as an adulteration. There is still wanted a "buffer" more competent than the local Councils to come between the inspectors and analysts and the retailers, so as to save the latter the expense of the Court proceedings, which are at present frequently necessary to prove that adulteration and fraud are not involved in supplying articles conforming to popular standards which differ from those of the analyst.

### The Move in Shellac.

THE speculative movement which has taken place on the shellac market with more or less animation during the past two months, and is now reaching a high mark, is the most important of recent years. It is based on the fact that there has been practically no crop in India this year owing to drought and famine. The position at present appears to be on a sound basis, as reports regarding the shortage of stick-lac have been fully confirmed, and all indications point to a continued advancing market. Shellac, however, like quinine, is one of the most treacherous articles in Mincing Lane, and this no doubt acts as a deterrent to many who are now mere spectators. There is no doubt that the present venture has afforded some speculators an opportunity of partially recovering their losses of previous years, for many have cleared out old stocks which had eaten their heads off. The first signs of the speculative movement were noticed about the middle of August, there having been little or no speculation during the first seven months of the year. At the end of July the Calcutta price of second orange TN, which is taken as the standard, was cabled 30r., but with a strong demand in Calcutta during August the quotation advanced by the end of that month to 40r., and then began a series of advances (with the exception of one or two slight reactions), which ended at 54r.—the quotation to-day. During this period the London and Calcutta markets have been very excited at times, prices advancing rapidly every day, with occasionally more buyers than sellers. Meanwhile the continued unfavourable crop-reports from Calcutta, and the fact that Calcutta shippers were covering their requirements in London, all helped to sustain the market. The result has been that whereas fair "TN" on the spot was selling previous to the advance (early in August) at 64s. to 65s. per cwt., up to 97s. spot has been paid for it this week, and up to 102s. 6d. has been paid for fine second orange, but the market is now erratic, and closes rather dull.

The London statistical position is quite favourable to the advance, the stock in the warehouses being exceptionally small, as the following figures show:—

	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897
Cases ...	35,208	42,173	49,023	53,758	53,273

Undoubtedly more shellac has been bought and sold during the past month than exists in the world at present; so that when the days of reckoning come prices will be still further inflated and an artificial supply is likely to give place to artificial stuff. We require in London about 50,000 cases of shellac per year, and these are not visible now.

The crop is unequal to the deficiency, and Indian makers are apparently cognisant of the fact, for about a month or six weeks ago a considerable quantity of rosin was shipped from this market to Calcutta. This is conjectured to be for the purpose of mixing with the natural resin in making shellac. There seems to have been no secrecy about the matter in London; there is likely to be a good many disputes with the Calcutta shippers when the time comes for taking up arrival contracts, especially if it be on a falling market. These disputes are usually settled by arbitration in London, and generally end in an allowance being made to the buyer. In this connection we quote the following paragraph from a report on the shellac industry in Assam, prepared at the request of Dr. George Watt:—

The process of manufacture is the same as followed elsewhere. The crude lac is first crushed and sifted to free it from woody matter. It is then subjected to a long course of alternate washing and drying, until the resin is thoroughly free from colouring matter. The lac, called in this stage seed-lac, is then put into a long cloth bag which is held and slowly turned over a charcoal fire. When the resin inside the bag has melted it is squeezed out by twisting the bag, and is brushed off by drawing it over the smooth surface of a piece of plantain-bark. Mr. — mixes a small proportion of rosin with the crude lac. In Sibsagar the lac is washed in alkaline water prepared from the ashes of plantain-tree at one stage of the long course of washing to which it is subjected. Occasionally the residue left in the process of dyeing with crude lac is melted and cast into cakes, which are sold along with stick-lac; but they still retain some dyeing matter.

Here, it will be seen, the use of rosin under normal conditions is admitted, and it can be imagined what may happen in such bare times as the present. Indeed the interesting question arises: Is normal high-quality shellac free from rosin? As to the prospects of supplies in the near future, it may be observed that there are usually two crops of lac in the year, one being collected in May and June, and the other in October and November. The first crop is mainly used for seed purposes; the second is the chief crop, and supplies the bulk of the exportable article. The latter, however, cannot be expected to reach this market before December or January.

### THE METRIC SYSTEM.

There is a possibility that Australia will set us an example by adapting its currency to the decimal system. Evidence is now being taken by a Select Committee to decide upon the advantage or disadvantage which might result if the proposed alteration were effected. It seems, however, that there is a prejudice against any change of the currency system in Australia just as there is in the Mother Country, and it may be that the present inquiry will be without result.

### VOLUNTEER COMPOUNDERS' PROLONGED SERVICE.

The War Office does not appear to be giving the attention to the relief of Volunteer compounders in South Africa that these patriots deserve. One who has been out for two years informs us that his repeated applications to the authorities at the seat of war have invariably brought the reply that "the exigency of the present situation" prohibits them from allowing him to return home. It is rather hard that the fighting-men who volunteered should have been drafted home so quickly, and that those who give the War Office their professional services for a stipulated period should be detained. It imperils their future prospects materially, and we hope that some attempt will be made to draft home as soon as possible those who have been out longest.

### HAMBURG IPECAC.

Lately some Hamburg dealers, with the idea of securing the American drug-business (for which there is always strong

competition between London and Hamburg), have been offering Cartagena ipecac. with an analysis of a kind. Only this week a circular has been issued by a Hamburg firm, in which the following paragraph occurs :—

*Ipecacuanha-root* is strongly requested: stocks are getting very light owing to large purchases made by American people, and no new arrivals are reported. We have of a very first-rate owner an exceptionally fine lot containing 2·95 per cent. emetin pure after chemist's analyse, which is very advantageous at 6s. 8d.

How valueless the "analyse" is, will be understood when we recall the fact that Paul and Cownley have shown that an average sample of Cartagena ipecacuanha yields about 2·2 per cent. of total alkaloids, and only a little more than a third of this is emetine. It appears to be the custom of German analysts to return the whole of the alkaloids as "emetine," but even then 2·95 per cent. is a figure that indicates the alkaloidal residue to be impure. Yet it is against such erroneous statements that London dealers have to compete. As an instance in point we may state that an inquiry sent from London to a New York buyer as to whether he was not open to buy ipecacuanha in London, brought back the reply, "We always buy Cartagena ipecacuanha in Hamburg, where we get a guarantee of 2½ per cent. emetine." As there is no ipecacuanha in the world which gives this yield the guarantee is obviously valueless. It is time for a protest to be made against this sort of trading. It is certainly not fair, and its honesty is more than questionable.

#### PUTTING IT STRAIGHT.

There was an answer to a correspondent in *Tit Bits* of October 12 which is worth reprinting here, as a suitable paragraph for retail price-lists :—

"Disgusted" returns once more to the question of chemists' charges. He says he agrees with every word "Anti-Humbug" wrote, and that for anyone to get threepence for that which costs a farthing is a swindle. — But he must remember that a chemist has to have a much more expensive training than the ordinary shopkeeper, and that he has a great responsibility in dealing out the wares he sells. Further, the amount which he sells of many of his commodities is small, and he could not live if he had to be satisfied with the ordinary, say, 10 per cent. profit. Then again, many drugs will not keep beyond a certain time; and, further, a chemist has to stock a large number of medicines which he is seldom asked for, but which it would not do for him to be without in case of need; then he is generally asked some little bit of advice and uses his knowledge to supply it. Altogether we think the chemist well deserves the profit he gets.

The subscriber who sends us this paragraph very properly remarks:—"Had the editor himself been a chemist he could not have better stated our position; and his attitude towards us will earn the gratitude of all chemists who read the article, especially as it contrasts so strongly with the conduct of a similar periodical, which published an article since used largely as an advertisement by a company of cutters."

#### A PERSONAL AFFAIR.

Last week the General Purposes Committee of the Federation of Grocers' Associations of the United Kingdom held their quarterly meeting in Glasgow. Many trade-matters, such as "Christmas-boxes," "Rules to Govern Contracts," "Bovril-prices," "Proprietary Articles," "Secret Tea-auctions," and "Milk-blended Butter Prosecutions," were discussed. As to the last matter a motion on behalf of the Manchester Association was put forward, regretting that the Federation did not appear to have been represented at the recent prosecutions for blending butter with milk, and deplored the fact that the solicitor who usually acts for the Federation (Mr. F. W. Beck) should have been interested in defending the cases, thereby probably prejudicing the position of the Federation in the eyes of the authorities. Mr. Beck, who was present, was invited to speak, and reminded them that he was not the solicitor of the Federation. He had no retaining-fee from the Federation. They came to him for advice, and he tried to give

them the best advice he could whenever they sought it. But as far as the actual business-position lay, that was the beginning and end of their connection. He had a perfect right to carry on his private practice, and the Federation had no right whatever to dictate how that practice was to be carried on. He had been connected with the Federation since its inception, and he deeply resented the insinuation that he had ever used his position and knowledge of the Federation's work to the detriment of the Federation. He could not help feeling that the attack was made under the mistaken supposition that he was an official of the Federation. Thereupon the Manchester resolution was promptly withdrawn and peace once more reigned supreme.

#### GROCERS' PROFITS.

It is notorious that grocers, who were mainly responsible for the system of cutting prices in proprietaries, are now the most clamorous for price-regulations. At the meeting of the General Purposes Committee of the Grocers' Federation, at Glasgow, a resolution was received from the Reading and District Grocers' Association along with the following list of articles showing the list prices, selling prices (subject to usual discount), and percentage of profit:—

		Size	List	Sold at	Percentage of profit
Benger's food	... ...	s. d. 1 6 2 6 1 8 2 6	s. d. 13 0 21 0 12 4 21 0	s. d. 1 1 1 8½ 1 1 1 9½	2½ actual cost 7½ 5
Mellin's food	... ...				
Neave's food	... ...	1 0	7 3	0 8	9¾
Liebig's extract	... ...	—	13 4	1 2½	7½
Brand's essence	... ...	—	13 4	1 2	7
Nestle's milk	... ...	—	20 3	0 5½	9¾
Peneau's sardine	... ...	—	6 1	0 6½	7½
Brown & Polson's corn-flour	... ...	—	5 1	0 5½	7½
Goddard's plate-powder	... ...	—	6 10	0 7½	8
Van Houten's cocoa	... ...	½-lb. ½-lb. 1-lb.	8 6 16 2 30 0	0 9½ 1 6 2 10	10 10½ 10
Colman's mustard	... ...	½-lb. ½-lb. 1-lb.	— — —	0 4½ 0 8 1 4	1 1 8 8

We do not understand what the last column means, but it was given so in the resolution. From Bradford came a resolution asking that the committee approach Messrs. Cadbury Brothers, cocoa-manufacturers, and Messrs. G. Foster, Clarke & Co., manufacturers of "Eiffel Tower" lemonade, and respectfully request them to arrange minimum retail prices for their goods, "so as not to give an undue preference to co-operative or other bonns-paying stores."

**FEDERATION SUBJECTS FOR ASSOCIATIONS.**—Mr. Geo. F. Merson, Secretary of the Federation, asks local Chemists' Associations to keep a night open for Federation subjects, which will be communicated to them soon.

*The Pharmaceutical Era* of October 3 states that "Mr. R. S. Neal, of London, who is inspecting American pharmaceutical houses in the interest of a big English firm, has been making visits to the New York establishments the past week."

**MOSQUITO-CONES.**—"The other day," says Mr. Lahouchere in *Truth*, "I read in a London paper that there are pastilles sold in Venice against mosquitoes, and that if one he burnt in a room these insects sleep during the entire night. This is precisely what they do not do. Two or three hours after the pastille is burnt the effect of its fumes goes off, and the insects wake up refreshed and hungry. The real way to use these pastilles is this: Light one when it is getting dark, and after it has about half burnt through open the window. The mosquitoes, not liking the odour, fly through the open window, to which they are attracted by the light outside; then close the window, and take care not to open it again until the next morning, and close the door quickly when going to bed. If this plan be adopted there will be no mosquito in the room during the entire night."

## Legal Reports.

### Trade Law.

**TRUSTEE AND CREDITOR.**—At the Bath County Court on October 10, Mr. Turpin, of Bath, as trustee under a deed of arrangement with the creditors of Mr. Price, chemist, formerly of Westmoreland Mart, claimed certain properties which had been seized by the High Bailiff in connection with an execution. Mr. Price was in difficulties, and he executed a deed of arrangement of all his property to Mr. Turpin for the benefit of creditors. Mr. Foote, a creditor, did not assent to the deed, and issued an execution warrant. The execution warrant was applied for on July 31, and the deed of arrangement was dated July 30. It was submitted on behalf of Mr. Turpin that the property passed to the trustee, and ousted the execution creditor, whose counsel contended, on the other hand, that the deed was voluntary, was revocable, and was not for valuable consideration until assented to, or acted upon, by a creditor. After considerable argument, the Judge held that the deed was a voluntary deed of arrangement at that time; that the trustee held merely as agent for the debtor; that it was revocable, therefore, by him, and the deed being a voluntary one the goods were not protected against the execution creditor. There was no property acquired by the trustee before the warrant came into the hands of the bailiff sufficient to oust the execution creditor. Judgment was given for the execution creditor. A case for appeal was refused, the amount in dispute being only about 14*l.*

### Employers' Liability Act.

#### A CONFLICT OF TESTIMONY.

JUDGE BROWN, K.C., was engaged several hours at the Ashton County Court on October 10, hearing a case in which Martha Hartley, of Stockport, claimed 29*6d.* 8*s.* from Messrs. Scott, Chadwick & Co., bleaching and dye works, of Clayton, damages for the loss of her husband, who, it was alleged, was poisoned at the defendants' factory by fumes from hydrochloric acid. The defence was that deceased died from acute lobar pneumonia which could not have been caused by the inhalation of the fumes, and not from bronchial pneumonia. There was a conflict of medical testimony, and the Judge, in rejecting the claim, said he could not satisfy himself upon the evidence that the poor man had met his death as plaintiff alleged. He declined to make any order as to costs.

### Education Acts.

#### EMPLOYING A SCHOOL-GIRL.

AT Lambeth Police Court on October 10, Messrs. Shirley Brothers, wholesale perfumers, of Rockingham Street, Newington Causeway, were summoned by the London School Board for employing a girl of school age during school hours, contrary to the employment clauses of the Education Acts. A School Board visitor deposed to having visited defendants' premises and finding that they were employing a school-girl named Florence Bartholomew, aged 13 years. The forewoman admitted that she engaged the girl without asking for her birth certificate. At the time of his visit the girl had been employed for three weeks in filling scent-bottles, and was paid 4*s.* per week. A clerk in the service of the defendants answered the summons on their behalf, and said the girl in question not only gave them a false name but also overstated her age. It was by an oversight on the part of the forewoman who engaged the girl that a birth certificate was not asked for. It was far from the wish of the firm to employ anyone under age. A fine of 40*s.* and 2*s.* costs was imposed.

### Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

#### MILK OF SULPHUR.

AT Haverhill Petty Sessions on October 14, Edward W. Griggs, chemist and druggist, Haverhill, was summoned for selling milk of sulphur which was adulterated with 48 per cent. of sulphate of lime. Defendant questioned the inspector as to the conversation which took place when the sample was purchased, contending that he told him it was milk of sulphur of the London Pharmacopoeia. The

inspector replied that defendant made use of some Latin term which he did not understand. His instructions were to buy milk of sulphur, and defendant did not tell him he was not supplying him with milk of sulphur.

The defendant reiterated that he told the inspector it was milk of sulphur according to the P.L., and if the case were adjourned he could produce two witnesses to prove it. He was rather surprised to find that the analyst was not present; there were one or two pointed questions he should have liked to ask him. The Superintendent replied that the public analyst did not attend unless a request was received from the defendant. Defendant said he should have liked to have the analyst asked whether what he sold would be injurious to anyone taking it. Ninety-nine chemists out of a hundred sold it as he had done. The public preferred it, and it was more efficacious as a medicine. In cases where the B.P. preparation was sold, eight out of ten purchasers complained of the difficulty experienced in mixing it. He did not label the sample "Milk of Sulphur, P.L." as the inspector said it was not necessary. He held that the sample was fully up to the standard of the London Pharmacopoeia, and that there was, therefore, no adulteration. He quoted a case heard at Knutsford in 1877 (*C. & D.*, April 14, 1877, page 160), in which the magistrates decided that "milk of sulphur and precipitated sulphur are supplied to the trade as two distinct things." In reply to the Chairman, defendant said there was not the slightest difference in the values of the two preparations. He sold the sample as he received it.

After a quarter of an hour's consideration the Bench adjourned the case until November 11, for the attendance of an analyst.

#### WHAT IS LINSEED-MEAL?

IN the Dundee Sheriff Court on October 11, George A. Fairweather, grocer, Carnoustie, was summoned under Section 6 for selling bruised linseed-meal, or crushed linseed, which had been deprived of 26 3 per cent. of its natural oil. Mr. W. H. Blyth Martin, on behalf of the defendant, objected that bruised linseed-meal was neither a food nor drug. He pointed out that the Pharmacopoeia article is crushed linseed, and that linseed-meal is not a synonym for it. Mr. Miles, County Clerk, Forfar, who appeared for the prosecution, contended that "bruised linseed-meal" is identical with "crushed linseed," and he pointed out that a drug is defined in the Act to include medicine for external use, and, seeing that linseed-meal or crushed linseed is used for making poultices, he contended that it is a drug. Sheriff Campbell Smith said in that case a flannel shirt, soap and water, or a porridge poultice would be a drug, and so would whisky, which was sometimes taken as a medicine. Mr. Martin then produced samples of linseed-meal and crushed linseed, with price-lists and orders to show that there are two different substances, and the Sheriff sustained his objection, giving judgment for the defendant. He said there seemed to be a doubt as to what the inspector asked for. At all events, if he did not get what he wanted he had himself to blame, as he had the opportunity of seeing what he was getting. If it was only a question of a little more or less oil, that did not alter the substance of the material, and he did not see how that could involve fraud or injuriously affect the health of the public, which it was the purpose of the Act to prevent. He had little hesitation in dismissing the complaint as totally irrelevant, because he held that anything that could be done in it would be utterly useless.

#### ALMOND OIL.

AT Bournemouth Police Court on October 11, William Jones, pharmaceutical chemist, 254 Old Christ Church Road, Bournemouth, was summoned for selling as sweet almond oil an adulterated oil. Mr. Jones stated that two oils were kept, one for ordinary use and the other for the manufacture of brilliantine, and a new assistant had inadvertently emptied a small quantity of one into a bottle containing the other. A fine of 1*l.* and 17*s.* costs was imposed.

#### MILK-BLENDED BUTTER.

AT the South London Quarter Sessions on October 11, before Mr. Loveland-Loveland (Chairman) and other Justices, Pearks, Gunston & Tee (Limited), appealed against the

conviction of Mr. E. W. Garrett at the South-Western Police Court (*C. & D.*, September 21, page 497), on the question of milk-blended butter. After lengthy legal argument the Justices dismissed the appeal, but promised to state a case for the High Court on two points of law—viz., whether there was any evidence that the sale was to the prejudice of the purchaser, and whether there was any evidence of fraud.

#### SOAP LINIMENT.

At the North London Police Court on October 11, before Mr. A. R. Cluer, Taylor's Drug Company (Limited), 26 and 27 High Holborn, were summoned by the Islington Borough Council for selling at their branch establishment, 410 Holloway Road, liniment of soap which was 70 per cent. deficient in camphor. Mr. A. M. Bramall prosecuted, and Mr. Kirby (Neve, Beck & Kirby) defended. Mr. Kirby took immediate exception to the service of the summons, as the registered offices of the company were not at High Holborn. Mr. Bramall replied that it was sufficient for him that the defendants were in court by their solicitor. Mr. Kirby: I am only here out of courtesy to the Court. Mr. Cluer: Do you only wish to remind me, Mr. Kirby, that the summons has not been served? Or do you appear for the defendants? Mr. Kirby: I ask you to strike out the summons as "not served." Our chief office is in Leeds. Mr. Bramall: But you are here. Mr. Cluer: He has a right to take the objection. And if I were to go on with the case and give a verdict against him, he could appeal on the "non-service" objection, and the whole thing would be null and void. Do you say, Mr. Bramall, that Nos. 26 and 27 High Holborn are the registered offices of Taylor's Drug Company (Limited)? Mr. Bramall: I do not know. But what will he gain by this objection? The summons will be re-issued. Mr. Cluer: That does not matter. He is quite within his rights. Mr. Bramall: The drug in question was sold at 410 Holloway Road, and it is only a matter of form that we served the summons at High Holborn. Mr. Cowling, the inspector, said he had taken out a previous summons, which was served at 26 and 27 High Holborn, and no objection taken. Mr. Kirby: That has not been our registered office for two years. Mr. Bramall: But the fact of your being here proves that you have had the summons. Mr. Cluer: Oh no; if you served me at my neighbour's house you could not, declare that you had served me on my premises. This is not an appearance on the part of the defendant; it is an appearance under protest. Mr. Bramall: I have no proof now present as to the registered offices of the company, and, therefore must submit to the inevitable. Mr. Cluer: The onus is upon the prosecution to set the law properly in motion. Mr. Kirby: I am entitled to ask for a dismissal of this summons. Mr. Bramall: He has not said if he has a defence, and, therefore, is not entitled to have it dismissed. Mr. Cluer: He is not bound to disclose his defence in asking for a dismissal of the case because of improper service; and if he insists upon the rules of the game I do not say he has lost. I rather like it. (Laughter.) Mr. Bramall: A respectable chemists' company, one would have thought, would not have raised such quibbles. Mr. Cluer: It is ingenuity, and no question of respectability, which takes technical points. (Laughter.) He would not dismiss the summons, but would adjourn it to enable the prosecutors to get proper service. On a question as to the day of the re-hearing, Mr. Cluer said: You had better let me have it, as I enjoy people who bring technical objections. (Laughter.)

At the Clerkenwell Police Court on Wednesday, October 16, Mr. Herbert Baker, chemist and druggist, trading as Baldwin & Co., 215 Holloway Road, N., was summoned by the Islington Borough Council for selling liniment of soap containing methylated alcohol which had been substituted for the alcohol (*spiritus rectificatus*) of the Pharmacopoeia. Defendant pleaded guilty, and said his assistant, new to the business, had inadvertently sold the wrong article. He (defendant) kept both kinds in stock. Mr. Bros imposed a fine of 20s., with 12s. 6d. costs.

SUMMONSES against Boots, Cash Chemists (Southern) (Limited) (successors to Days' Metropolitan Drug Company), of 79 Camberwell Road, with respect to a similar offence alleged to have taken place at 167 Upper Street, Islington, and against Parkes' Drug-stores (Limited), of 173 High

Street, Camden Town, with respect to a similar offence alleged to have taken place at 251 Upper Street, were adjourned by consent.

#### Merchandise-marks Act.

At the Lurgan Quarter Sessions, before County Court Judge Kisbey, on October 14, there were mentioned the appeal cases of Robt. Thompson and Isabella Crawford, aerated-water manufacturers, Lurgan, against convictions obtained by the Belfast Bottle Exchange (Limited) for selling mineral waters in bottles embossed with the names of Belfast manufacturers. Mr. Jas. Chambers, B.L., for the appellants, said the points involved had been argued in the case of Ward and Burgess before Judge Adams at Limerick. That Judge imposed a fine of 6d. against the defendants, but he had stated a case for the decision of the Court of Crown Cases Reserved. The case would be argued in the present month, and the law settled as to the custom of filling bottles having other people's names on them, which was a very old one in Ireland. Under the circumstances he applied to have the appeals adjourned to the next Sessions. His Honour adjourned the cases, but said the appellants must avoid perpetrating the offence pending the decision.

#### Veterinary Surgeons Act.

##### AN M.E.V.M.S.

At Ambleside on October 9, Richard Scott was prosecuted by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons for using a description stating that he was specially qualified to practise a branch of veterinary surgery. Defendant had studied at Edinburgh for qualification as a veterinary surgeon, but had not yet passed his qualifying exam. Last year he commenced to practise at Ambleside as a veterinary surgeon, and published a circular calling attention to the fact, on which he put the letters "M.E.V.M.S." (member of the Edinburgh Veterinary Medical Society) after his name. These letters, the prosecuting counsel contended, would lead to the implication that he was a fully qualified and registered practitioner. To use the word "veterinary" was in itself improper, as a conviction had been obtained for inscribing the words "veterinary forge" on a business sign. For the defence, it was urged that Mr. Scott had not been guilty of using a fictitious title. He had taken over the business of a well-known unqualified practitioner. He had three certificates, and had held the position of assistant house-surgeon at the New Veterinary College, Edinburgh. He was a member of the Edinburgh Veterinary Medical Society, and hoped next December to take his diploma. The Bench held that while the defendant had no wrong intention in the matter there had been an offence against the 17th section of the Act, and imposed a fine of 1s. and costs.

#### The Dentists Act.

At the Workington Police Court on Wednesday, October 16, Richard B. Smith (46), dentist, Nook Street, Workington, was charged with unlawfully using the title of D.D.S., U.S.A., and also D.S.S. of the Dental College of Surgeons on October 3. Mr. J. S. Jones, who prosecuted on behalf of John Wells, collier, John Street, Workington, applied for an adjournment on the ground that the needful registers had not arrived from the King's printers. Mr. G. Falcon, who represented the defendant, opposed, and asked that the case be dismissed, observing that Smith was a respectable tradesman, and it was not fair that this charge should be hanging over him. The prosecutor ought to have had the registers before proceeding with the case. The Bench adjourned the hearing for a week.

#### The Pharmacy Acts.

##### THREE OFFENCES.

IN Inverness Sheriff Court on October 16, at the instance of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, J. Dewar, junior assistant at Mayor's Drug-stores (Limited), 31 Grant Street, Inverness, who is not a duly registered pharma-

ceutical chemist or a chemist and druggist, was charged, under the 1868 Act, with having sold a quantity of oxalic acid and with having on a second occasion sold a quantity of opium and belladonna in a liniment dispensed according to a prescription. A third offence was that, on the latter occasion, the liniment was not delivered in a bottle or vessel rendered distinguishable by touch. Mr. John Rutherford Hill, Assistant Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society, gave evidence of the analysis of the poisons, and stated there were 24 gr. of opium and  $\frac{3}{4}$  oz. of belladonna in the second purchase. A. M. Whyte described his visits to the shop at the request of Mr. Tait, an assistant to Mr. Hill. The accused was alone in the shop, and served several customers. Witness would not say who it was that introduced him to Mr. Tait in order that he should make the purchases. Joseph Tait stated that it was not he who selected Whyte to make the purchases. He went with Whyte to the shop, and from the door he saw him receive the poisons. William Macdonald, accused's employer, who acquired the business of Mayor's Drug-stores, and continued to carry it on under that style and title, deposed that accused was not in habitual charge of the branch-shop in Grant Street. He had employed one qualified assistant in it after another, but he was unfortunate in them, and accused was sent down to the shop in the intervals between their engagements. He was instructed, however, to send all orders for poisons to the High Street shop to be dispensed. What accused had done was strictly against his orders. He did not know that Mayor's Stores (Limited) had been struck off the register, and he continued to use the old labels. He had shut up the shop in Grant Street. The accused, who is 19 years of age, also gave evidence, in which he admitted having made the sales, explaining that he sold the poisons to Whyte because he knew him. He would not have sold poisons to anybody else. It was done against his master's orders. Accused had passed his first examination. Sheriff Gant found the charge proved, and fined the accused 2*l.* for each offence, and full expenses, or the alternative of seven days in prison.

#### Claim against a Druggist.

AT the Limerick Quarter Sessions on October 11, before his Honour Judge Adam<sup>s</sup>, Patrick Mulcahy, Margaret Street, Limerick, sued John Parker, druggist, William Street, Limerick, to recover 50*l.* for the loss of a horse, due, as alleged, to defendant's negligence in selling as nitre, on February 14, some poisonous or other deleterious substance.

The plaintiff said he asked defendant for twopennyworth of nitre, and defendant made up a bottle for him, the colour of the medicine being like ale. Plaintiff gave it to the horse, and the animal died during the night. Mr. T. Ryan, veterinary surgeon, deposed to finding traces of an irritant poison in the horse's stomach. He sent part of the stomach and intestines to Professor Tichborne, Dublin, for analysis. He did not tell Mr. Parker that the horse died from bursting of the diaphragm. Professor Tichborne said that he analysed the stomach and found traces of arsenic. He was unable to say whether the animal died from arsenical poisoning.

The defendant said that plaintiff asked for nitre, and witness gave him 1 oz. of sweet spirit of nitre mixed with about three-parts of a bottle of ale. He put nothing else in the bottle. He had no arsenic in his place that day. Mr. Ryan, veterinary surgeon, told him that he thought the immediate cause of death was the bursting of the diaphragm. His Honour said the action was the most unfounded he ever heard of. Waere medicine was given to a man in spoonfuls, it was given to a horse in bottles. Professor Tichborne found only a very minute trace of arsenic, and in chemistry a "trace" was the "shadow of a shade." The most extraordinary thing was that Professor Tichborne could not say what the horse died from, and had stated that he never heard about bursting of the diaphragm until that day. His Honour believed that that was the cause of the animal's death, and he would dismiss the action.

**THE MOTTO.**—"I have got a good motto for my new paper." "What is it?" "What we've got we hold." "I did not know you were a publisher?" "I am not. It is a sticky fly-paper."

## Bankruptcies and Failures.

*Re P. SANDEMAN & Co., Dundee, Drysalters.*—At a meeting of creditors held in Dundee on October 11, it was agreed to wind up the estate under trust deed. The liabilities are estimated at 834*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*, and the assets (less preference claims) at 410*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.*, showing an apparent dividend of 9*s.* 10*d.* in the pound. The trustee is Mr. A. Burns Petrie, 79 Commercial Street, Dundee.

*Re CHARLES GOLDSTRAW, Pen-y-Bryn, Sedgley, Chemist and Druggist.*—At Dudley County Court on October 10, a petition in bankruptcy was filed on behalf of this debtor, lately residing at Castle Cottage, Dudley, and carrying on business at Victoria House, Bilston, and a receiving-order was made.

*Re J. H. WATSON, Shipley, Chemist and Druggist.*—A meeting of creditors was held on October 14 at the offices of Messrs. Scott & Holmes, solicitors, Bradford, as to this private arrangement. Mr. P. R. Sewell, accountant, presented a report, in which the assets were estimated at 332*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* The liabilities were 167*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* to unsecured creditors, 6*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* to partly secured creditors, and 93*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* for rent and other preferential claims. A composition of 12*s.* 6*d.* in the pound was accepted. The following are scheduled as creditors :—

	£ s. d.
Carnwal (Limited), Harrogate	... ... 18 11 10
Kirk Brothers, Shipley	... ... 12 7 2
Lofthouse & Saltmer, Hull	... ... 21 9 9

*Re JOHN HUTCHINSON WOOD, 72 Handcroft Road, Croydon, Chemist.*—The sitting for the adjourned public examination was held at the Croydon Bankruptcy Court on October 16. The liabilities amount to 201*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*; the assets are estimated to realise 86*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* The debtor commenced business in September, 1897, without capital, and attributes his insolvency to depreciation in value of goodwill, stock, and fixtures, and law-costs defending prosecution for embezzlement. Mr. Alex. Mackintosh, sen., said he represented the Board of Trade, and as he had no further question or objection, debtor was allowed to pass.

*Re JAMES THOMAS (trading as Thomas' Drug-stores), 118 Kingsland Road, N.*

THE following are scheduled as creditors :—

	£ s. d.
Harrison & Wade, Leeds	... ... 10 0 0
Hodgkinsons, Clarke & Ward, London	... ... 10 0 0
Meggeson & Co. (Limited), London	... ... 14 0 0
Smith's Advertising Agency, London	... ... 69 0 0
Sutton & Co., London	... ... 25 0 0
Thomas, D., Whetland	... ... 210 0 0
Thomas, J., Whetland	... ... 210 0 0

*Re THOMAS PARKINS, 267 Chapel Street, Salford, Chemist and Druggist.*—A meeting of creditors was fixed for October 11, at Manchester, but although several creditors attended practically nothing was done. The liabilities have been scheduled at 571*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.*, and the assets at 11*l.* 1*s.*, leaving a deficiency of 560*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.* At the public examination on October 15, the debtor attributed his failure to bad trade, want of capital, and severe competition. The bankrupt stated that he commenced business in July, 1860, with 100*l.* free capital. His affairs were liquidated by arrangement in the Huddersfield County Court in 1874, when a dividend of about 2*s.* 6*d.* in the pound was paid on liabilities amounting to 500*l.* or 600*l.* He obtained his discharge in such liquidation, but was adjudged bankrupt in May, 1884, and had not yet obtained his discharge. His estate only yielded a dividend of 8*s.* 6*d.* in the pound on an indebtedness of 1,089*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.* Since 1884 he had carried on business for his late wife, and after her death in September, 1893, as her executor, but in his own name, to comply with the provisions of the Pharmacy Act. Not having kept proper books of account, he cannot file prescribed deficiency-account, but attributes his deficiency to heavy law-costs, interest on loans, loss on trading, anticipated loss on realisation of assets, and household and personal expenditure in excess of income. He first became aware of his present insolvency about three months ago, and has since contracted debts now owing. The unsecured liabilities are :—For bank overdraft, money borrowed, and interest (including loan by present wife), 377*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*; goods, &c., 155*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.*; work done, 15*l.* 10*s.*; and sundries, 23*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* The public examination was fixed for October 15, but an adjournment was granted until October 25.

**Gazette.****Partnerships Dissolved.**

**Barrow, O. G.,** and **Thornton, F. J.**, under the style of Barrow & Thornton, Dorchester and Weymouth, veterinary surgeons.

**Robertson, John,** and **Tytler, William Wallace,** Arbroath, chemists and druggists. Debts by Mr. Robertson, who continues the business in his own name.

**The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.****ADJUDICATIONS.**

**Goldstraw, Charles,** Sedgley, Staffordshire, late Dudley, Worcestershire, Bilston, Staffordshire, chemist.

**Towler, George Bland,** Heath Town, Staffordshire, chemist.

(From the "Scottish Law Courts Record.")

Mr. William Robb, 11 Albert Place, Leith Walk, Edinburgh, has applied for appointment as executor in the estate of Wm. Hindman, chemist, Dumbarton Road, Edinburgh.

*The Gazette* of October 15 contains the following announcement, issued by the Treasury:—

"Prohibition, under Section 5 of the Customs and Inland Revenue Act, 1888, of the use in beer of certain substances.

"Whereas it appears to the satisfaction of the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury that glucose containing arsenic and invert sugar containing arsenic are substances which are capable of being used in the manufacture and preparation for sale of beer, and that the said substances are of a noxious and detrimental nature,

"Now, the said Lords Commissioners, under the power conferred upon them by Section 5 of the Customs and Inland Revenue Act, 1888, do hereby prohibit the use in the manufacture and preparation for sale of beer of any glucose or invert sugar containing arsenic.

"Dated this 10th day of October, 1901.

"N.B.—A penalty of 50*l.* is imposed by the said section for any breach of this prohibition."

**Deed of Arrangement.**

**Gathergood, Robert John,** trading as R. J. Gathergood & Co., West Row, and 1 Westcot Street, Stockton-on-Tees, manufacturing confectioner and drysalter. Trustee, James S. Farmer, 87 High Street, Stockton-on-Tees, solicitor. Dated, October 8; filed, October 14. Secured creditors, 1,250*l.*; liabilities unsecured, 657*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*; estimated net assets, 500*l.*

**New Companies & Company News.**

**MARION, JAMES & KER (LIMITED).**—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (500 founders'). Objects: To acquire the business of manufacturing chemists now carried on by Marion, James & Co. at Durham Grove Works, Morning Lane, Hackney; to adopt an agreement made by this company with Marion, James & Co., and to carry on the general business of manufacturing chemists and perfumers, &c. The first subscribers are:—J. J. Ker, Durham Grove Works, Hackney, N.E., manufacturer; E. J. Ker, Durham Grove Works, Hackney, chemist; Miss L. M. Horsey, The Bourn, Widford, Ware; J. E. Ker, Willoughthorpe, St. Margaret's, Ware, gentleman; J. Horsey, 1 Compton Terrace, London, N., gentleman; H. Moseley, 272 Friern Road, Dulwich, S.E., clerk; and R. Krall, Gatton, Boundaries Road, Balham, S.W., engineer. No initial public issue. The first directors are E. J. Ker and J. J. Ker. Qualification, 50*l.* Registered office, Durham Grove Works, Morning Lane, Hackney.

**F. F. BRISTOW & CO. (LIMITED).**—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business now and hitherto carried on by F. F. Bristow & Co., and to carry on the business of wholesale, import, export, and retail soap, perfumery, and brush manufacturers, manufacturers of perfumed spirits, oleaginous and sapaceous substances and ingredients, lozenges, drugs, proprietary articles, druggists' sundries, ointments, pomades, essences, and all kinds of toilet and medical compounds, &c. The first subscribers are:—H. W. Bolton, 79 Amhurst Park, Stamford Hill, soap-maker; H. N. Bolton, jun., 79 Amhurst Park, Stamford Hill, soap-maker; S. H. Baker, 17 Richmond Crescent, Barnsbury, N., clerk; H. N. Price, 39 Leigh Road, Highbury, N., C.A.; H. W.

Player, 30 Canonbury Square, N., gentleman; B. R. Bowman, 53 Iverson Road, Brondesbury, N.W., clerk; and W. E. Brown, Hampden Club, King's Cross, manager. No initial public issue. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Remuneration, 50*l.* per annum each. [This conversion is for family reasons.]

**A. & F. PEARS (LIMITED).**—The directors have decided, after carrying 5,000*l.* to reserve (making 40,000*l.*), and adding a further sum of 4,713*l.* to depreciation account, to declare a dividend on the ordinary shares at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, making, with the interim dividend, 10 per cent. for the year, and on the deferred ordinary shares at the rate of 3½ per cent. for the year. The amount carried forward is 2,739*l.*

**ANGLO-SICILIAN SULPHUR COMPANY (LIMITED)**—At the annual meeting held on October 11, at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, E.C., Mr. W. T. Brand (Chairman), in moving the adoption of the report (particulars of which were given in our issue of October 5, page 581), said with such dividends the company would have paid in five years to the preference and ordinary shareholders 251,173*l.*, of which the ordinary shareholders had received 2*s.* 2*d.* per 1*s.* share. During the year the production and export of sulphur from Sicily had been the largest on record, and the demand for export continued good. The report was unanimously adopted.

**WHITE & PIKE (LIMITED).**—The liquidation of this Birmingham company of chemists' and general printers is progressing. On October 11 a three days auction sale of the plant, machinery, and stock at Longbridge Works, Birmingham, was concluded. For the bulk of the machinery and stock competition was keen, and the total sum realised was about 11,000*l.* The freehold property has already been disposed of for 6,500*l.*, but the Moor Street Works have still to be sold. Until this has been effected it is, of course, impossible to estimate the ultimate total, but already sufficient is known to make it doubtful whether the amount will be sufficient to pay the first debenture-holders in full, while the holders of the second and third debentures and the creditors are not likely to receive any dividend.

**Personalities.**

**MR. F. BIRD,** chemist and druggist, Coventry, has been re-elected Vice-Chairman of the Coventry Freemen's Trustees.

**MR. S. PARKER,** chemist and druggist, Morecambe, has been elected President of the Morecambe Tradesmen's Association for the ensuing year.

**MR. T. E. PEARCE,** chemist and druggist, Tavistock, took the second prize for Cox's orange pippin at the Crystal Palace Fruit-show this week. There were thirty-three competitors in this class.

**MR. WALTER GIBBONS,** pharmaceutical chemist, King Street, Manchester, who was a chemist by appointment to the late Queen Victoria, has had the Royal appointment confirmed by King Edward VII.

**MR. CLEMENT A. HUGHES,** son of Mr. T. I. James Hughes Toxteth Pharmacy, Liverpool, who is a medical student at Liverpool University College, has during the past session distinguished himself by taking the Torr gold medal in anatomy (senior), the medal for forensic medicine, and a certificate in physiology (senior).

**MR. W. H. HEWETT** of the "Rozotto" Pharmacy, Cowes, I.W., has received a warrant of appointment as chemist to the King, this being a continuation of the appointment which he had from his Majesty when Prince of Wales. Apart from his business relations with Royalty, Mr. Hewett was for ten years, and up to Queen Victoria's death, tenor soloist in the private chapel at Osborne.

ON October 7 Mr. Richard Gibbins was presented by the staff and employés of Davies, Gibbins & Co., of Derby, with a smoker's cabinet and a congratulatory address on the occasion of his recent marriage. The presentation was made by Mr. J. E. Shaw, manager of the pill-department, who spoke of the good feeling existing between the firm and their employés, and paid tribute to Mr. Gibbins's practical knowledge in every department of the business.

## Trade Notes.

**CHRISTMAS PERFUMES.**—Messrs. Corbyn, Stacey & Co. (Limited), 300 High Holborn, W.C., are as usual well to the fore with perfumes for Christmas sale. We called at the showroom, 8 Fisher Street, Red Lion Square, W.C., last week to inspect the new goods and describe the chief novelties. Mention should be made first of all of an attractive new showcard supplied to chemists who stock the perfumes. The card, which is in the poster style, has a striking blue background, and represents a lady at her toilet-table sprinkling perfume on the handkerchief. In bulk perfumes a new

line is the series (No. 220) of  $\frac{1}{4}$ -lb. bottles containing triple extract, distinguished by appropriately ornamented labels and finished in French style. A new bottled perfume is the "Grecian Bouquet," supplied in  $1\frac{1}{2}$  oz. indirect squares. The perfume is exquisite, and its sale will be also helped by a beautifully-designed label in gold and colours. Many new patterns have been added in the cut-bottle series, a special style being a series of small phial-shaped bottles with gold covered sprinkler tops. The size and shape are conven-

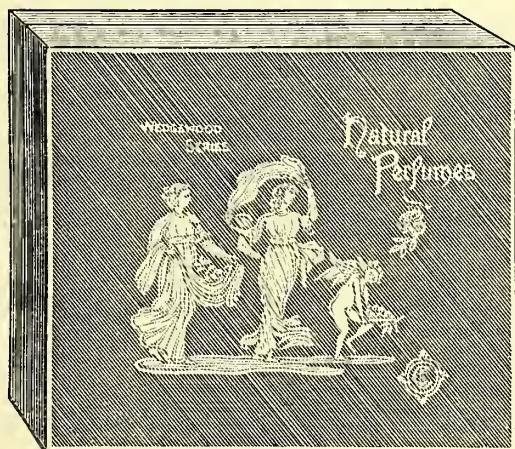
ient for the pocket, and the bottles are sufficiently substantial to warrant refilling. An attractive line is called the "Embossed Floral Series" (No. 1001), the decorative art-labels reaching a high standard in chasteness of design. Perfumes in fancy cases are presented in numerous but quite distinct designs from sixpenny lines up to a guinea. The cheapest cases are furnished in no fewer than four designs, and the perfume, being put in panelled lubins, looks excellent value for money. In shilling lines the Japanese (No. 631) and floral book-shaped cases (No. 623) are most striking. The leaf-shaped case (No. 661), with one bottle of perfume, retails at 1s. 6d., but to our mind the floral case (No. 651), ornamented on a white ground with hand-painted violets, and containing two bottles of perfume, is the best value at that price. In the more expensive cases a Wedgwood-designed box



No. 220.



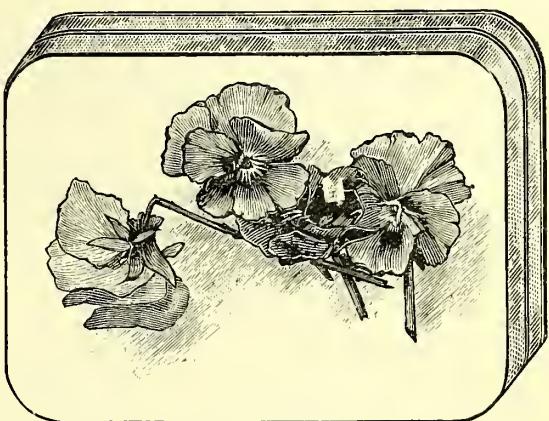
No. 1001.



No. 705.

(No. 705), lined with old-gold satin, and containing two fancy bottles of perfumes, is especially attractive. Considerable taste has been expended on the "upholstering" of the cases, not without a reason, we believe, as the first

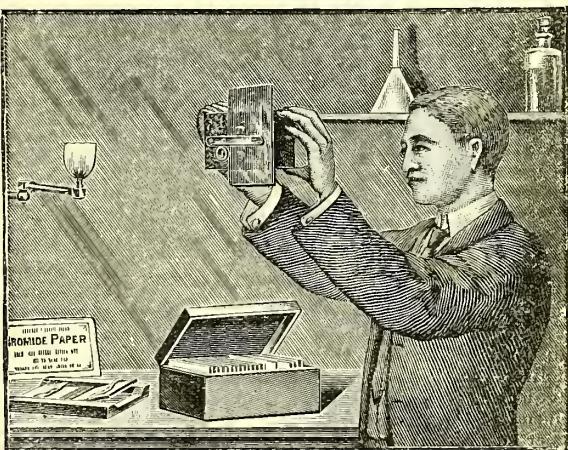
impression on opening a case of perfumes has a lot to do with influencing a sale. Satin-topped cases, and those with embossed celluloid ornaments, belong to the higher-priced



No. 823.

series, whilst No. 823 (shown in the illustration) is an especially good line, the case containing three bottles of perfume. A price-list of these is published, and enumerates many more styles than we have space for here.

**DAWSON'S DENSITOMETER.** which has just been introduced by Messrs. Geo. Houghton & Sons, 88 and 89 High Holborn, W.C., is a piece of apparatus designed for testing the density of negatives when printing on bromide or similar papers, and when preparing contact lantern slides or transparencies. The densitometer takes the form of a mahogany box on one side of which are two eye-holes covered with ground glass. At the other side of the box are corresponding holes;



before one of these the negative is held by means of a brass clip and the other is furnished with revolving diaphragms. With the negative in position the operator holds the box up to the light and revolves the diaphragm until the light coming through the two openings is equal. The number on the diaphragm is then noted and by means of a table the length of exposure to a light of 16 c.p. and at 36 inches distance is at once found. Another table shows how to alter the exposure according to the distance from the light. It should be observed that the part of maximum density in a negative is the part to be chosen for testing by the method. The instrument sells at 5s.

**BAD DEBTS REGISTRATION ASSOCIATION.**—We had a talk the other day with Mr. Sydney Hadsoll, of 144 Leadenhall Street, E.C., who is founding this association of wholesalers as a protection against traders who are systematic bad payers, or who are frequently making private arrangements that do not become public. Mr. Hadsoll's idea is to get the

names of such persons from the subscribers, and from these the association will prepare and issue to subscribers lists of names and addresses of customers who have failed, after due pressure has been applied, to discharge a *bonâ-fide* debt contracted in the ordinary way of trade, and which has consequently been treated by the subscriber as hopelessly lost. Wholesalers and retailers will appreciate the value of this scheme, about which further particulars may be obtained from Mr. Hadsoll. It is still in the germ stage.

**SIXTEEN-OUNCE MEASURES**—Referring to "Xrayser's" comment of last week regarding 16-oz. measures marked " $\frac{1}{2}$ " at 8 oz. and "1" at 16 oz., Messrs. F. Newbery & Sons send us a sample of such a measure, showing that "lb. 1" and "lb.  $\frac{1}{2}$ " are indicated. These measures are unstamped, and are generally in demand for export trade.

## Virchow.

GERMANY and medical science did all the honour they could last Saturday at Berlin to the veteran Professor Rudolf Virchow, the eminent pathologist, on the completion of his 80th birthday. The proceedings commenced with a reception in the new Pathological Institute, when a bust of Virchow in marble was presented by Dr. Studt, the Minister of Education, to the Professor as the founder and director of the Institute, where the bust is to have a permanent place. Professor Virchow having replied, an adjournment was made to the lecture-hall of the Institute, where he delivered a



PROFESSOR RUDOLF VIRCHOW.

luminous and concise review of the history of pathology, and a sketch of the scope and objects of the Berlin Pathological Institute. It was a magnificent address, charmingly delivered, and was appreciated by a large and distinguished audience. Professor Virchow then conducted his guests to the microscope-room, and Professors Koch and Leibon showed microscopical preparations of the bacilli of malaria. He next entertained his guests to luncheon, and in the evening there was a semi-private dinner of the German scientific friends of Virchow at which the most distinguished of the foreign guests were present. These included Lord Lister (for the Royal Society, &c.) and Sir Felix Semon (Royal College of Physicians). In the evening at 8 o'clock there was a meeting in the hall of the Prussian Chamber of Deputies to receive addresses to the Professor from German and foreign delegations. First, however, Dr. Studt read a letter from the German Emperor in which the Kaiser wrote about what medical science owes to the indefatigable labours of Professor Virchow, and the Kaiser conferred upon the Professor the Grand Gold Medal for Science. Lord Lister presented addresses from six of the leading scientific and medical bodies in Great Britain and Ireland; and Sir Felix Semon, who addressed the assembly in German, and spoke as an old pupil of Virchow, conveyed the congratulations of his College. The functions lapsed over into this week, and were attended by the octogenarian professor, whose vigour was the astonishment of all.



**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

### Mr. Boot Explains.

SIR.—With reference to the paragraph in your last issue, page 607, which reads:—

"It is stated," says our Bradford reporter, "that Boots (Limited) are now pursuing a policy of waiting for shops to become empty in the neighbourhood of Taylors' stores, and at once pouncing upon them." We said something on the subject a fortnight since.

I beg to say that your correspondent has been quite misinformed.

We have no policy of prospecting for shops near those of any other company or private chemist. If the tenant of some other premises in Bradford, for which we were in negotiations, had not elected to retain his tenancy, we should not have taken the premises in Kirkgate. We took these because they were the most central premises we found available.

With respect to other towns, neither of Leeds nor Harrogate, where we have taken shops, could it be truthfully said by anyone that we had sought premises in the neighbourhood of Messrs. Taylors' shops.

I might add that there has never been any agreement between Taylors' Drug Company (Limited), Leeds, and ourselves, restricting the area in which each company should carry on business. Our relations with Messrs. Taylors have been of a perfectly friendly character for more than twenty years, and still continue to be so. Therefore the allusion in your issue of September 28, page 543, to an agreement now terminated, is based upon a misapprehension, no such agreement having existed.

Yours faithfully,

Nottingham, October 15.

JESSE BOOT.

[“A friendly understanding” was how we put it on September 28, and our use of the word “agreement” was in reference to that. Mr. Boot’s denial is important in view of the fact that there is a supposition in some quarters that other amalgamations of these large drug companies were not a remote eventuality.—ED. C. & D.]

### “Unfit” an “Improper” Word.

SIR.—The Editor of the *Pharmaceutical Journal* writes to me complaining that in the note *re* my communication (*C. & D.*, September 28, page 551) he is made to say that “the letter was ‘unfit’ for publication.” I did not profess to quote word for word Mr. Frost’s letter, but simply gave it as my own opinion that “evidently the letter was unfit,” &c. Why Dr. Paul should take exception to the word “unfit” passes my comprehension, seeing that the dictionaries give “unfit” and “unsuitable” as synonymous. This burking of the right of members of the Pharmaceutical Society to express their opinions, whether favourable or adverse to the Council, in the official organ cannot do either the journal or the Society any good, especially when coupled with the veiled threat of turning out of the Society any member who ventures to have opinions and dares to express them in opposition to the faction then ruling. Who knows but that at some future time the opinions of the present minority may become those of the majority?—and then what another great exercise of the “penal powers” there would have to be!

Yours truly,

Blackburn, October 11.

JOS. HINDLE.

### Fixed Prices for Proprietary Articles.

SIR.—I was very glad to see that bovril and Hunyadi-János water were in future not to be sold under a certain price, which will ensure a fair profit to the retailer. I see

that bovril does not require a signature to a non-cutting agreement, being content with affixing to each invoice an impression from an indiarubber stamp to the effect that bovril is supplied on the understanding that it is not to be sold under certain prices. This will, I fear, be ignored by many who would have hesitated to go below those prices if they had signed an agreement. I do hope that before long some of the other makers will follow the examples of the proprietors of Powell's balsam, Scott's pills, Elliman's embrocation, &c., and fix a minimum selling-price which allows a fair profit to the retailer. They have been blind to their own interests in not having done so long ago. Last week I was asked by two would-be purchasers of articles which give about a halfpenny profit whether I could recommend them, and you may rest assured that in each case the customer went out with my own article instead. Only yesterday a gentleman who was going abroad came in for three boxes of pills, but as, by asking my opinion of them, he gave me an opportunity of recommending my own, he will take mine abroad instead. I believe that this experience of mine can be multiplied largely all over the country. For myself, if a customer asks for Elliman's embrocation, Scott's pills, or any other patent bearing a fair profit and sold at a fixed price, I never introduce my own specialities with the view of selling them instead of those asked for. Trusting that others will follow suit and give their experience and opinions, so that makers may be induced to put matters on a better footing for the trade.

Yours truly,  
FAIR PROFIT. (26/14)

#### Sale of Poisons by Auction.

SIR.—In the *C. & D.* of October 5, page 561, there is a report of a sale by auction of a drug-store stock, in which poisons were included. Was this a legal transaction? I notice it is mentioned that the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society was present, but no mention is made of a protest.

ASTOUNDED. (30/62.)

#### Examination Curiosities.

*Spun in Edinburgh* (30/65) writes:—This week you refer to the Minor failures in London—fifty-one out of 202 candidates passing. Undoubtedly there is something wrong with the candidates, examination, or the examiners; but surely Edinbrngh takes the cake. In the practical days one failed the first day, two the second, and fourteen the third—out of twenty-five up each day. How can that be explained?

#### An Explanation.

Messrs. R. Sumner & Co. (Limited), Liverpool, writing to us in regard to the defective scales case reported last week, inform us that the scale in question was a balance let into the ground at their stores, and used only for checking goods received from the railway, and not for any other trade purposes. They have for very many years had a contract with Messrs. Avery to keep all scales in order, and this particular scale was tested by their man a few weeks previous to the inspector finding it faulty, and passed by him as correct.

#### Legal Queries.

Before sending in a query for reply in this section see if the subject is not dealt with in "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1900, pages 212-226, and pages 259-262.

22/42. *Chemicus* tells us that "A" and "B" were in business as chemists as partners, having three shops. They invented a headache-powder, each shop mixing and putting up its own powders in stamped packets. A device for it was registered as a trade-mark. After a time they dissolved partnership. "A" became bankrupt about a year afterwards and his business was sold, with the headache-powder, which has since been acquired by "Chemicus," who finds that "B" has been putting up the powder in a slightly different design, but still calling his powder by the name that the firm used, which is part of the registered mark, but which *per se* was refused registration. What is "Chemicus" to do? [Our correspondant omits the most important point in his case, and that is, what was done on the dissolution of partnership with regard to the proprietary article in

question. Unless exclusive right thereto and to the trade-mark was reserved to "A," we should say that "B" was entitled to continue to manufacture and sell the article and use the trade-mark. Apparently there is no question of fraud in the case and the rights rest entirely on the documents of title. On a transfer of a trade-mark it is necessary to register the assignment at the Patent Office. Has our correspondent got his title registered? With the present information, we do not think our correspondent would be entitled to restrain his rival from using the name or putting up the proprietary in question.]

20/23. *A. M. S.*—You do not send us the advertisement.

22/17. *Pater.*—Three years dispensing medical prescriptions with an unqualified person, if the fact is testified by a chemist and druggist or medical practitioner, is quite in accordance with the Minor examination regulations.

20/25. *M.*—Cyanide gauze, being a preparation of a metallic cyanide, is a Part I. poison as much as a fly-paper made with arsenic is. Some manufacturers appear not to be aware of this.

18/46. *Nursery.*—The nursery ointment to which you refer is apparently not a proprietary article, and may accordingly be sold without a patent-medicine licence.

18/9. *Hematite* has submitted to the Board of Inland Revenue a label bearing the following wording:—

Cherry Balsam, for coughs and colds. Adults, half to a teaspoonful three or four times a day; children, half quantity in a little hot water. As a stomachic, or hot drink, take two teaspoonsfuls in half a tumbler of hot water, sweetened.

Our correspondent asks if we think the label liable? Yes, because in 1898 the Board intimated that it could not sanction the use of such expressions as "mixture for coughs" unless the preparations are properly stamped.

11/73. *Sylvine.*—Your customer, if not a chemist, must take out a patent-medicine licence if he wishes to sell "recommended" pure-drug remedies. On this point refer to the *C. & D.*, June 22, page 1002.

#### Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

22/9. *Med Calf.*—The spirit of peppermint, B.P. 1898, is a compromise between the old essence and spirit. It is the best thing to sell for essence of peppermint.

7/36. *Apores.*—So long as the College of Preceptors' Second-class Certificate, covering the Pharmaceutical Society's requirements, is obtained in not more than two examinations, the Society is satisfied. See our issue of September 7, page 414.

6/38. *Gold.*—To Recover Gold from an alloy of gold and silver reduce the metal to filings, and dissolve out the silver by means of nitric acid 2 parts and water 1 part. You may dissolve the residue of gold in aqua regia if you wish to get it into solution, but to treat with aqua regia first is a mistake.

5/42. *T. J.*—The precipitation in transparent hair-restorer is retarded by keeping it in the dark, and it should be put up in amber-coloured glass bottles preferably. The precipitate is lead sulphide, and its formation on the hair gives the "restoring" effect.

7/67. *Mizpah.*—The surface of the leather would be quite altered by dipping in any bath, and the body of the silk would also be altered. An alkaline surface would be just as injurious to the bronze as an acid one. We do not think the change in the bronze is due to the resins. The whole matter is one for considerable investigation; in fact, some manufacturers would pay one or two hundred pounds to get to the bottom of such a difficulty, and we do not see why you or we should undertake a research of the kind gratis. Under no circumstances would we undertake it.

24/70. *G. H.* (Sydney).—The New South Wales qualification is not recognised in Great Britain, but if you are coming to London with good testimonials and references to one or two wholesale houses you will have little difficulty, we think, in getting employment. Others like you have been suited. You should endeavour when you reach this country to obtain the Minor qualification, as that would, with the New South Wales one, admit you to practice in any part of the British Empire.

29/9. *Victorian*.—Several Guides to the Royal Gardens, Kew, are published, viz :—A plan of the Gardens and index, price 2*l.*; four Guides to the museums and north gallery, 1*s.* 3*d.* the lot; hand-lists of trees and shrubs (8*d.*); coniferae (4*d.*); ferns (6*d.*); herbaceous plants (1*s.* 9*d.*); orchids (8*d.*); tender monocotyledons (9*d.*); and mycologic flora (4*d.*). These you can obtain from the Curator of the Gardens for the published prices, but allow 3*d.* in the shilling extra for postage.

29/9. *Dental*.—You will find all the information that you require in our last Educational Number, September 7.

14/7. *Syrupus*. — *Siroop de Terebinthine* (French Codex):—

Turpentine (from fir) ... ...	100 grammes
Syrup ... ... ...	1,000 grammes

Put the turpentine and syrup in a covered earthenware pot, and digest on a water-bath for two hours, stirring frequently. At the end of that time add a little water, if necessary, to make up any loss. When cold the turpentine separates, and the syrup is filtered through paper.

23/28 *R. S. O.*—An oil-soluble aniline-black would appear to meet your requirements for colouring harness-oil black.

23/5. *J. P.*—Petroleum-emulsion.—The formula for this was last given in the *C. & D.*, September 29, 1900, page 560.

21/12. *R. W. B.*—Self-raising Flour.—See *C. & D.*, September 1, 1900, page 393.

26/21. *D. Y.*—Absorbent Cotton-wool is made on a commercial scale by "mercerising" carded cotton. The process consists in boiling the cotton with a 5-per-cent. solution of caustic soda for half an hour or until all oily matter is saponified. The cotton is then well washed, pressed, and immersed in 5-per-cent. solution of chlorinated lime for fifteen to twenty minutes, after which it is again washed, and dipped in water acidulated with hydrochloric acid. Washing with water and another boiling with alkali are needed, the final washing being carried out till all trace of acid is removed.

23/29. *Stamp*.—The excess of oil in your stamping-ink should be saponified to prevent the oily stain when used on paper. You do not, however, give any idea of the formula you use, so that we cannot advise you particularly.

23/6 *Pulvis*.—Failing a drying-closet (see THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1898, page 264), the kitchen-oven, when not over-hot, is the next best method of drying baking-powder boxes and farina.

32/44. *Landlord*.—The damp cellar is not a subject on which we can give you any other advice than to see to the drainage of the surrounding soil.

23/12 *Quin. Sulph.*—(1) Yellow ochre will give a good yellow colour to fly-powder. (2) *Black Hat-varnish*.—The basis given in the *C. & D.*, June 17, 1899, page 975, is coloured with 1 oz. of "spirit black" to 1 gal. (3) Permission must be obtained from the Board of Inland Revenue to sell any other medicated wines than those in the B.P. (4) Clark's syphon-stoves are advertised in the *C. & D.*.

9/32. *Numa*.—(1) Harness-blacking.—See reply to 21/49 (W. M. F. G.). (2) *Nit.-ointment* (non-poisonous).—See *C. & D.*, March 2, 1901, page 370.

4/5. *Brooklands*.—Charges for Doctor's Dispensing.—The usual charges are 1*d.* per oz. for mixtures, with a mini-

mum of 4*d.*; lotions are generally charged at lower rates than mixtures, but with the same minimum; liniments are charged according to composition, a profit of 10 or 15 per cent. being added to the cost; pills, 3*d.* a dozen; and powders, 4*d.* a dozen. In all cases costly ingredients justify extra charges.

26/25. *Jean*.—The methods of determining Resin in Soap are not altogether satisfactory, but Dr. Alder Wright, in "Thorpe's Dictionary," speaks well of Twitchell's process. In this a weighed quantity mixed fatty and resinous acids in absolute alcohol is taken and dry hydrochloric-acid gas passed through, the fatty acids being converted into compound ethers, whilst the resinous acids are unaffected. On adding water and either an aqueous solution of hydrochloric acid is washed out on agitation, leaving an ethereal solution of neutral compound ethers and free resinous acids. The resinous acids are then determined by titration with standard alcoholic alkali, using phenol phthalein as an indicator.

21/19. *S. S.*—It would be neither wise nor safe to put up a nursery hair-lotion containing hydrargyri perchloridum. The stavesacre-lotion often recommended in these columns is one of the best lotions for the purpose.

### Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

29/1. *Oxydol*: where obtainable, or who are the makers?

31/55. Actual makers of brass syringes.

31/74. Address of manufacturer of, or agent for, La Roche's pessaries.

### Coming Events.

Notices of forthcoming meetings are inserted in this section free of charge. Secretaries should send such notices to the Editor of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., so that they may be received not later than Wednesday of the week of publication; if later, by telegram to "Chemicus London."

Saturday, October 19.

The Brewers' Exhibition opens at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, and remains open till October 25.

Monday, October 21.

Liverpool Chamber of Commerce (African Trade Section), at 2.30 p.m. Major Ronald Ross will deliver an address on his recent visit to the Gambia, Sierra Leone, the Gold Coast, and Lagos. Members of the West African Trade Section of the London Chamber of Commerce will be present.

Tuesday, October 22.

Dewsbury Chemists' Association. Annual Dinner, at which Mr. Glyn-Jones and Mr. Lord Gifford will speak.

Wednesday, October 23.

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association, Victoria Hotel, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. John Taylor, Bolton, will deliver an address entitled "A Year's Work on the Council." Chemists' Assistants' Union of Great Britain, the Horseshoe Hotel, Tottenham Court Road, W., at 9 p.m. Meeting at which the amalgamation with the Chemists' Managers' Association will take place.

Thursday, October 24.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, Oxford Street, W., at 9 p.m. Paper by Mr. W. Garsed on "Coca and its alkaloids."

NOTTINGHAM AND NOTTS CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.—The opening gathering takes place on October 30, for which date a smoking concert and social has been arranged. Later on Mr. A. R. Bennett has promised to give a paper on "Some curious points in the laws affecting chemists."

## Trade Report.

**NOTICE TO BUYERS.**—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: October 17.

THERE is a dull tone about the drug and chemical markets this week, although there are several important fluctuations to record, the principal of which is a reduction in caffeine, owing to slack demand and competition; pilocarpine has also been reduced, owing to like conditions. On the other hand, crude camphor is dearer, and business has been brisker. American oil of peppermint has advanced again, and in oil of star-anise there has been a revival of business at slightly lower prices. Senega continues its upward movement, and the speculation in shellac still goes on at advancing prices. American spermaceti is lower. Quinine is flat, owing to the bark shipments from Java being surprisingly large for the first half of the month. The following are the principal changes of the week:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Areca	Cbamomiles	Acid, citric	Caffeine and salts
Camphor (crude)	Ipecac. (Cast.)	Copper sulphate	Condurango
Lard		Oil, castor	Oil, anise, star (c.i.f.)
Manna		Oil, cod-liver	Pilocarpine
Oil, peppermint (Amer.)		Oil, lemon	Spermaceti
Petroleum		Quinine (sec. hands)	Tin crystals
Pot. nitrate			Valerian
Senega			
Shellac			
Wormseed			

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom, from October 12 to 16, both inclusive:— Aloes (@ Mossel Bay), 70; annatto (@ Bordeaux), 10 cks.; arrow-root (@ Natal) 54, (@ St. V.) 100 brls.; "balsams" (@ Hamburg), 10 cs.; buchu, 22; button-lac, 50 chests; calumba (@ Bombay), 486; camphor (@ Kobe), 144 tubs; cardamoms, 74; caraway seed, 393; cascara sagrada, 297; chamomiles (@ Ghent), 45 bls.; chloral hydrate, 14; cinchona (E.I.) 168, (@ Mollendo) 40 bls.; cocaine (@ Callao), 13 cs.; cod-liver oil (@ Aalesund) 199, (@ Bergen) 136 brls.; drugs (@ Rotterdam) 12 bls., (@ Philadelphia) 45 pkgs.; essential oils (@ Hong Kong), 75 cs.; eucalyptus oil (@ Australia), 72 cs.; gum arabic (@ Suez) 84, (@ Alexandria) 297, (@ Trieste) 2 cks. 64 cs.; gentian, 21; ginger (@ Bombay), 100 bags; honey (@ New York), 170 cs.; insect-flowers, 50; insect-powder, 140; kino, 25; lime-juice (@ Antigua) 13 brls., (@ Jamaica) 41 brls.; lime oil (@ Dominica) 57; mandrake-root, 15; olibanum (@ Bombay, &c.), 50 cs.; opium (@ Smyrna) 20, (@ Constantinople) 32 cs.; pimento, 455; pepper (@ Havre), 350 bgs.; poppy-heads (Belg.), 6; potash chlorate (Swed.), 130 pkgs.; quinine (@ Amsterdam), 62 cs.; saffron (@ Malaga), 1; senna (@ Port Said) 75, (Tinn.) 524 bls. and 41 bls. pods; squills (@ Trieste), 46; vanilla (@ Auckland), 29 cs.; wax-bees' (W.C.A.), 43 pkgs.; wax, ceresin (@ Hamburg), 250; wax, unenumerated (@ Havre), 157.

### Heavy Chemicals.

The better demand experienced of late for practically all classes of heavy chemicals is still kept up well, both as regards home and export trade. The latter will, however, from now decline somewhat, as is usual at this period of the year, and it is therefore pleasing to be able to report that orders for deliveries against existing contracts on home account are coming in well, and there seems every likelihood of this state of affairs continuing, at any rate for some time to come. A steady business too is being done in forward requirements.

**ALKALI-PRODUCE.**—There is little or no change to be reported regarding this department. All round demand is fairly active, and values are mostly unchanged. Bleaching-powder, caustic soda, ammonia alkali, soda crystals, and saltcake are all in better request, whilst chlorates and prussiates, generally speaking, continue dull.

**SULPHATE OF AMMONIA** keeps fairly steady, but present figures are a shade lower than those last quoted. Beckton, 10*l.* 15*s.*; Beckton terms, 10*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*; London, 10*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 10*l.* 15*s.*; Leith, 10*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* to 10*l.* 15*s.*; and Hull, 10*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* Exports from Leith last week, 305 tons.

**PHOSPHORUS** in steady request at unaltered figures. Wedges, 2*s.* per lb.; and amorphous, 2*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 7*d.* per lb.

**CALCIUM CHLORIDE** is firm, and continues to move steadily at 60*s.* to 65*s.* per ton.

**TIN CRYSTALS**, although in moderate request, are lower, present figures being only about 8*d.* to 8*s.* 4*d.* per lb.

**PEARL HARDENING** without change, either as regards demand or price. Figures are 60*s.* to 67*s.* 6*d.* per ton, free on rail, or free on board in usual casks.

**LINSEED AND COTTONSEED CAKES.**—Demand is not very heavy, but prices are firmly maintained, and tendency is upwards rather than otherwise. Linseed cakes, 95 per cent. pure, 8*l.* 5*s.* to 8*l.* 10*s.* per ton. Oilcakes, 7*l.* 5*s.* to 7*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per ton. Cottonseed cakes, 5*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*l.* 5*s.*; and seconds, 4*l.* 15*s.* to 4*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per ton.

**SULPHOCYANIDES** show no improvement in value, and demand keeps only very moderate. Ammonium, 95 per cent., 6*d.* per lb. Potassium, 7*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.* per lb.; and barium, 95 per cent., 4*d.* per lb.

### Liverpool Drug Market.

*Liverpool, October 16.*

**CASTOR OIL.**—In consequence of the presence of parcels of good seconds Calcutta on the quay, 3*s.* 4*d.* per lb. has been taken in that position, but for store parcels 3*s.* 4*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.* is still asked and being paid. Forward quotations are very firm. English and French first-pressure is still held at 3*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 8*d.*, and second-pressure English and French 3*d.* to 3*s.* 1*d.*, and not much business is passing at these figures.

**GUM ACACIA.**—There has been a continual movement in this article, and sales of mixed hard and soft Soudan description are reported at 42*s.* 6*d.* to 45*s.* per cwt., 50 bags being sold at the former price in one line. The advance recorded last week is fully maintained.

**CALABAR BEANS.**—Four bags just landed realised 9*s.* 4*d.* per lb. at auction.

**GRAINS OF PARADISE.**—Three bags, part of a recent arrival, have fetched the advanced price of 72*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

**TURPS**—Has advanced during the week to 27*s.* 9*d.*, at which it is firmly held.

**HONEY.**—Close upon 300 barrels Pile X. Chilian have been sold at 18*s.* per cwt., and one holder of a considerable quantity of Californian has been cleared out of his stock, but the price was not allowed to transpire. Seven barrels brown fermented Peruvian realised 17*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

**BEESWAX.**—Sixty-seven bags of Chilian grey found a buyer at 6*l.* 10*s.* per cwt.; 3 bags pale Chilian found buyers at 7*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., and 11 bags mixed quality sold at 7*l.* per cwt.

**QUILLIAA.**—13*s.* per ton is still asked for prime quality, though some slightly inferior might be bad at a shade less.

**CANARY SEED** has experienced a sharp upward movement, and stock has been reduced to 500 to 700 bags, 33*s.* 6*d.* to 35*s.* per quarter being now the value of good bright Turkish seed.

**AFRICAN GINGER.**—Sales on the market at 35*s.* per cwt., and now the stock in first hands is practically exhausted.

**KOLA.**—Nine bags of dry West Coast Africa sold ex quay at 1*s.* per lb.

**LINSEED OIL.**—Liverpool make in export casks is held at 32*s.* to 32*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

### German Drug Market.

*Hamburg, October 15.*

There are not many changes of importance to be reported from our drug-market since last week, and only a few articles meet with interest at advancing prices.

**ALOES, CAPE,** is very firm and scarce, at 65*m.* per 100 kilos.

**ANISEED** is firm. Russian of new crop is quoted 43*m.*, and old crop 41*m.* per 100 kilos.

**BALSAM PERU** is tending firmer, at 12*m.* per kilo.

**CITRIC ACID** is dull of sale, at 245*m.* for spot, and next year's delivery 240*m.* per 100 kilos.

**CAMPHOR, REFINED**, shows a better market, at improving prices. Second-hand is now held at 430*m.* per 100 kilos.

**CUMIN-SEED** is tending firmer, at 58*m.* per 100 kilos. for Maltese.

**CEVADILLA-SEED** is improving, at 80*m.* per 100 kilos.

**ERGOT** is very firm and scarce; 345*m.* per 100 kilos. is asked for Spanish.

JAPANESE WAX is firm for spot delivery, at 68½m., and forward at 66m. per 100 kilos.

LYCOPODIUM shows a strong market, with spot delivery at 455m. and forward 440m. per 100 kilos.

MENTHOL is very firm, at 32m. spot and 30½m. per 100 kilos. for forward delivery.

CANTHARIDES are firmer, at 515m. per 100 kilos.

IPECACUANHA.—Rio is quoted 25m., and Cartagena 14½m. per kilo.

QUININE is firm, at 39m. per kilo.

QUILLIA is quiet, at 28m. to 27½m. per 100 kilos.

SENEGA continues firm, with Western root quoted at 540m. per 100 kilos.

OILS, FIXED.—Castor is slow of sale, with first pressing in barrels at 56½m. to 56m. per 100 kilos. Cod liver is unchanged. Linseed fluctuating, and showing very little business. Cotton declining.

OILS, ESSENTIAL.—Star anise is unchanged, at 11m. per kilo. Peppermint firmer, at 8½m. per lb. for HGH; Japanese on the spot is 8½m., and forward 7¾m. per kilo.

### American Drug Market.

New York, October 8.

The drug-market is steady, with a good consuming demand. Fluctuations are few, and due to natural causes.

ALOES is in fair jobbing request at 3¾c. to 4c. per lb. for Curaçao, and 6c. to 6½c. for Cape.

ASAFETIDA is easier, owing to lack of demand, and 26c. to 30c. is generally quoted for prime goods. Inferior grades may be bought at a lower figure.

BALSAMS.—Tolu has sold freely at from 29c. to 32c., according to quantity. Quotations are now 33c. to 36c. Fir (Canada) is extremely scarce, and only small quantities are obtainable at from \$3.65 to \$3.75. Oregon is higher in sympathy, and is quoted at 65c. in barrels.

BEESWAX is firm, as supplies are not arriving freely. Ordinary yellow has advanced to 30c.

CASCARA SAGRADA is receiving very little attention, but the market maintains a very strong tone owing to the scarcity both on the spot and at primary sources.

CHAMOMILE FLOWERS.—Roman are offering at 18c. to 20c., German at 20c. to 22c., and Hungarian at 13c. to 15c. The market is easier.

CINCHONIDINE is neglected, and quotations have declined to 25c. in quantity.

CUBEBES are in good supply, and in the absence of demand quotations of 12c. are nominal.

GAMBoge is scarce on the spot, and quotations have advanced, 52½c. being asked for pipe.

GUAIACUM is higher, 18c. to 30c. per lb. being asked, according to quality.

MENTHOL is firmer at \$3.85 to \$4.00 per lb.

OIL OF WINTERGREEN is scarce at \$1.35 to \$1.45.

HONEY is easier owing to the large crop. That from California is reported from three to four times the size of the usual yield. Sales on the Pacific have been made at 4½c. for amber and 5c. for white, but the prospects are for a much lower market.

IPECAC. is higher owing to the disturbances in Columbia. Cartagena is quoted at \$1.65 to \$1.75, and Rio at \$2.80 to \$2.85.

OIL OF PEPPERMINT is in good demand, but buyers do not seem anxious to pay present prices. There is little probability of any decline, however, in the near future. Bulk is now quoted at \$1.60 to \$1.75, and HGH at \$1.85.

QUININE.—Consequent on the result of the last bark-sale domestic makers advanced prices 1c. to a parity with foreign manufacturers. Quotations from first-hands are now firm at 28c. Second-hands offer German at 27½c.; and Java at 27c.

SENEGA ROOT.—Rain is stopping the collection of root in the North-West, and the spot market is firm at 55c. to 60c., with restricted offerings.

SARSAPARILLA.—Mexican is an easy market at 7c.

### Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, October 17, 2 P.M.:—Shellac is advancing. Refined camphor is firmer at 430m. per 100 kilos. in second-hands. Menthol on the spot is practically exhausted. Ergot is firmer at 350m. per 100 kilos.

\* \* \* \*

NEW YORK, October 17, 3.41 P.M.:—Market here is active. Senega continues to advance, 57c. now being quoted for Western. American peppermint in bulk is also dearer at \$1.65, and HGH at \$1.90 per lb. Golden seal (*Hydrastis canadensis*) has advanced to 58c. per lb.; and cinchonidine is firmer at 26c. per oz. Gamboge is scarce and dearer at 58c. for good pipe. Opium is easy at \$3.13 per lb. for case-lots.

### London Markets.

ACID, CITRIC, is flat, with little business, at from 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 2d. for English crystals, according to quantity. The inside figure is also quoted for next year's delivery. The quotation of 1s. 1d. in last week's report was an error.

AGAR-AGAR—Holders are very firm at 1s. 8d. to 1s. 8½d. per lb., c.i.f., for best white threads. New is not expected until January or February.

ALOES.—The s.s. *Dunvegan Castle* has arrived with 70 cases from Mossel Bay.

ANISE, STAR.—A Hong-Kong report dated September 13, states that supplies of the old crop are almost exhausted. October-December delivery of new crop is offering at the equivalent of about 60s., on the basis of which price native speculators have taken several hundred piculs.

ARECA.—Dearer again at 52s. per cwt. for good clean.

ARROWROOT slow. At auction on Wednesday, fine Natal was bought in at 7¾d. to 8d. per lb., and good St. Vincents at 3d. per lb.

ASAFETIDA.—There is a good inquiry for fine, and the shipment now on the way is likely to meet with good competition if of this description.

BALSAM PERU can still be bought at 6s. 6d. per lb., spot but price will in all probability go higher, as the trouble in Central America continues.

CAFFEINE—A reduction of 1s. 6d. per lb. is announced this week, English and German makers now quoting pure crystals at 12s. 6d., 10-lb. lots 12s. 3d., and 100 lbs. 12s. Caffeine citrate (B.P.), 8s. 9d., 10-lb. lots, 8s. 6d., and 100-lb. lots, 8s. 3d. per lb., all net. Caffeine salts have also been reduced, hydrobromide being quoted 8½d. per oz.

CAMPHOR.—Crude is dearer, business having been done in Japanese at 165s. per cwt., c.i.f., which figure the monopoly now quote. Pressed is 177s. 6d., c.i.f.

CANTHARIDES.—The new Russian crop is said to be very small, and some sellers are holding back in anticipation of higher prices; from 2s. 4½d. to 2s. 5½d. per lb., c.i.f., is quoted according to quality. No Chinese is offered.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—For prompt shipment from San Francisco higher prices are now asked, but there are still spot sellers at 26s.

CASSIA-BUDS of genuine quality are quoted 107s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f.

CHAMOMILES.—Nothing is obtainable under 66s. per cwt., c.i.f., for Belgian flowers.

CINCHONA.—The shipments from Java during the first half of October amounted to 680,000 Amst. lbs., against 364,000 Amst. lbs. last year, and 657,000 in 1899.

CONDURANGO.—Prime sifted quality is quoted from Hamburg at 37s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f., which is lower, further supplies having come to hand.

COPPER SULPHATE is again easier, at 20l. 17s. 6d. for good brands on the spot, and Liverpool 21l. 5s. per ton, f.o.b.

ERGOT.—From Hamburg it is reported that the position is very firm and that the United States are ready buyers of the small parcels offered. The offers from Spain, hitherto rather abundant, have ceased, and about 10 per cent. higher prices are asked. For November delivery 1s. 7½d. to 1s. 8d., c.i.f., is quoted, according to holder; spot is unchanged at 1s. 10d., and old Spanish can be had at 1s. 7d.

GALLS.—The stock of plum-shaped Chinese has been cleared for the Continent at full prices. There have been sales for arrival of the usual kind at 53s. c.i.f., but plum-shape of new-crop is not offered. In blue Persian a good business has been done, and the cheap second-hand parcels have been cleared. Holders now want 64s. to 65s. per cwt. for blue, and 49s. to 50s. for white. Importers' prices are still above current rates.

GAMBIER.—All positions have been firmer recently. Spot has sold at 25s. The market is bare of cubes.

GUM ARABIC.—Fair palish Ghatti has been sold at 23s., middling to good Oomra at 20s. to 22s., and good Karachi-

Amrad at 37s. In so-called insoluble Bushire gum further business has been done for arrival, and on the spot small sales of firsts and seconds picked gum have been made at unchanged rates.

IPECACUANHA.—Since the auction further sales of good clean have been made at 6s. 9d. per lb., but 7s. is now wanted.

LARD has been gradually rising for some months, and the upward movement continues, prices being about 10s. per cwt. higher. Wholesale druggists have therefore advanced preparations accordingly.

LYCOPODIUM is very firm at 2s. 0½d. per lb., c.i.f., for prompt delivery, and 2s. 0½d., c.i.f., for October-November shipment. It is said that some Russian houses have oversold at low prices, and are now on the market to cover their sales.

MANNA.—The gathering of the crop is said to have finished earlier than usual, and that prices have advanced 4d. for best flake.

MENTHOL.—Rather quiet. The spot price is maintained at 15s. 6d. per lb. for Kobayashi crystals, which figure has been paid for single cases. For October-November shipment from 13s. 3d. to 13s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f., is quoted according to dealer.

NUX VOMICA.—A report from Calcutta dated September 26 states that owing to high prices no export sales are possible. Small ready parcels are selling at 2.10r. to 2.13r. per B maund net weight, loose according to grade. Spot is very scarce, one second-hand holder of a few bags asking 11s. per cwt. for good.

OIL, ANISE STAR, is lower for arrival, business having been done for October-December shipment at 4s. 7d. per lb., c.i.f., whereas 4s. 9d. was asked early in the week. Spot sellers continue to ask 5s. to 5s. 1d. per lb. The market is rather unsettled in view of a failure which has taken place in Mincing Lane this week.

OIL, BERGAMOT.—New crop, for next year's delivery, is quoted 7s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f.

OIL, CASTOR—Belgian is easier at 28l. per ton for first pressings on the spot, ex warehouse, and November-December shipment 27l., f.o.b. Antwerp. Hull make for December delivery is quoted 28l. for firsts and 27l. for seconds, ex wharf London. Good Calcutta seconds are obtainable at 3½d. per lb.

OIL, COD-LIVER—The Bergen cod-liver oil market is extremely quiet, with a declining tendency. Finest Lofoten non-congealing oil has been sold at 61s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen. The exports from Bergen to date amount to 9,764 barrels, against 7,451 barrels last year.

OIL, LEMON.—Finest brands are unchanged at 3s., c.i.f. and upwards, but less-esteemed makes are tending downwards.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—Dearer. Importers of American HGH now quote 9s. per lb., c.i.f., but 8s. 3d. is mentioned as the highest figure paid. Wayne County has also been advanced to 7s., c.i.f.

OPIUM.—After doing business at 11s. for spot, holders now ask 11s. 6d. for Persian; for arrival 11s., c.i.f., has also been paid, but at the moment nothing is offered forward. Turkey is quiet and unchanged.

SMYRNA, October 4.—There is very little news to report this week, and prices have undergone no change with the exception of new current talequale for which 1d. less has been accepted for 6 cases. The sales amount to 23 cases, including 14 old Karahissar talequale at 9s. 11d., and 8 cases new current Adette at 8s. 5d. to 8s. 7d. per lb., c.i.f. The stock in Smyrna now amounts to 3,412 cases old and new opium, against 2,700 cases last year, and in Constantinople 650 cases against 1,108 cases.

CONSTANTINOPLE, October 11.—The only sales to report are five cases "druggists'" at the equivalent of 8s. 4d. per lb. Heavy rains have fallen here during the last few days, but have not reached inland, and in consequence autumn sowings are being delayed. Market continues very quiet.

PETROLEUM has again advanced; water-white American on the spot is now quoted 8½d. to 8¾d. per gallon for water-white. Russian is 6½d. to 6¾d. spot.

PILOCARPINE.—The demand has been very slack of late and that, together with "outside" competition, on the part of French houses, has induced German makers to lower their prices for both hydrochloride and nitrate, which they quote at 48s. per oz., net for 8-oz. lots and over, and 53s. 9d. for 1-oz. lots. French make of less esteemed quality is quoted 44s. net for 8 ozs.

POTASH NITRATE is 5s. per ton dearer, 20l. 12s. 6d. now being quoted in 2½-cwt. casks.

QUILLAIA.—For prime sound quality in lots of 10 tons 14s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f., gross for net is quoted.

QUININE.—Last week the second-hand market closed rather dearer with a fair business for December delivery at 1s. 2d., and March 1s. 2½d., and these prices were maintained until Wednesday, when the announcement of unexpectedly large bark shipments from Java caused an easier feeling, and to day sellers quote December at 1s. 1½d., and March at 1s. 1¾d., and spot 1s. 1¼d., without any important business.

SEEDS.—The new crop of Russian Anise is arriving; the price asked is 23s. per cwt. Dutch Caraway are steady at 21s. 6d. to 22s. 6d. per cwt. Morocco Coriander is selling at 10s. to 10s. 6d. per cwt. Retail sales of Morocco Cumin are being made at 24s. per cwt. Canary continues firm owing to the small stock; new crop Turkish is quoted 30s. 6d., c.i.f. terms. The spot price is 33s. per quarter. Linseed quiet, but unchanged in value. Fenugreek firm at 7s. 6d. to 8s. per cwt.

SENEGA.—Again dearer; 2s. 6d. per lb. net has been paid for spot stuff, which is very scarce, and sellers are very reserved. Business has also been done at 2s. 4½d., c.i.f., but 2s. 6d. is now quoted without engagement. A good inquiry is reported both from home and continental buyers. New York advices state that the article is very scarce there, and the time for collecting is past.

SHELLAC.—After the close of our last report the Calcutta price of TN advanced a further 5r. to 55r., at which figure it remained until Wednesday, when it was cabled lower at 54r. Throughout the week a good business has been done both for spot and in "futures" at advancing prices. With the drop in Calcutta, however, the speculative market on Wednesday became irregular, and declined 4s., subsequently recovering somewhat before the close. The market closes rather dull to-day, with sellers of TN on the spot at 97s. The business done on the spot includes second orange TN at from 95s. to 97s. for fair, and fine second orange at 100s. to 102s. 6d., according to quality. For arrival AC Garnet has sold at 99s. to 100s. c.i.f. for October-December shipment. In "futures" October has sold at from 97s. to 98s.; November, 99s. 6d. to 100s.; December, 100s. to 100s. 6d.; January, 98s. 6d. to 102s. 6d.; and March, 100s. to 104s.

SERPENTARY is quoted 1s. 9d. per lb., c.i.f.

SOY is steady at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. per gallon.

SPERMACETI.—American refined is 1d. per lb. lower, now 1s. 1d., spot. For a large quantity probably 1s., c.i.f., would be accepted.

SPICES.—There has been more speculative business in Zanzibar Cloves than for some time past, otherwise there is not much requiring notice. Cochin Ginger is steady: at auction on Wednesday medium cut sold at 70s. to 72s. 6d. per cwt., but the other descriptions were bought in, bold rough at 50s., tips at 46s., washed rough at 41s. to 44s. for slightly mouldy and wormy to fair, and at 42s. for Calicut brown rough. Sales have been made privately at 43s. for washed rough Cochin, and at 40s. for Calicut brown rough. Jamaica sold at 40s. to 40s. 6d. per cwt. for ordinary dull, and at 44s. to 46s. 6d. for dull washed. Penang Cloves partly sold at 7½d. per lb. for good fair picked. A large speculative business has been done in Zanzibar cloves at prices rising from 3½d. to 4d. per lb., but on Wednesday the market was easier, and the price declined to 3½d. Japan Chillies were partly sold at 44s. per cwt. for good red, slightly mouldy. Pimento steady, ordinary to fair sold at 3½d. to 3½d. per lb. Nutmegs quiet, Penang 80's sold at 1s. 4d. per lb. Mace slow, Penang pickings were bought in at 1s. 3½d., and thin red Singapore at 1s. 5d. per lb. Cinnamon sold at 7½d. to 8½d. per lb. for quillings, cuttings, and pieces, and at 3½d. to 3½d. for bold chips, ordinary small being brought in at 3d.

per lb. Pepper quiet, Singapore black is quoted 6d. per lb. on the spot. Singapore white is worth 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and Penang 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb.

SUGAR OF MILK.—American is steady at from 41s. to 42s. per cwt., according to quality. From Hamburg 42s. c.i.f., is quoted in cases of 2 cwt.

TAMARINDS.—A report from Calcutta dated September 26 states that the export demand has been almost nil, but local and country requirements are sufficient to maintain rates. Supplies and stocks are moderate.

TRAGACANTH.—The demand this week has been for seconds, thirds, and fourths, for which very full prices have been paid. Lower grades (from 5s. downwards) are pressed for sale.

TURMERIC.—Cochin is quiet at 16s. per cwt. for finger and 12s. for split bulbs. Bengal is slow of sale at 18s., spot, and for arrival importers quote 14s. 6d., c.i.f.

VALERIAN.—Belgian is easier, one holder offering [at 25s. on the spot.

WORMSEED.—Higher prices are now asked from Hamburg —viz., good green 40s., greenish 35s., and brown 30s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f.

#### American Copper Sulphate.

The exports of copper sulphate from New York in August were 175,310 lbs., making a total of 37,140,258 lbs. for the eight months this year. Italy received 27,499,645 lbs., or 74 per cent. of the total shipments; the remainder was distributed chiefly among Austria, the Netherlands, France, and Portugal.

#### The Malaga Almond Crop.

The United States Consul at Malaga has reported to his Government on the Malaga Jordan-almond crop. He states that the crop is as good, if not better, than that of last year, and amounts to about 80,000 boxes of 25lbs. to 28lbs. each. There is also an extraordinarily large crop of almonds throughout the other European centres, and particularly in the Bari district of Italy, which is the principal seat of the European almond market. None the less, the opening prices for Jordan almonds (which, as a matter of fact, do not exist outside the provinces of Malaga, Granada, and Almeria) were even a little higher than the previously unheard-of rates of last year.

#### American Platinum.

During the last two years the price of platinum has been steadily advancing in the United States and elsewhere, and now exceeds that of fine gold, having reached as high as \$21 an ounce. This is a little more than double the price quoted in 1895, when it reached about the lowest point in recent years—\$10 an ounce. At the opening of 1899 platinum was quoted at from \$14.40 to \$15.50 an ounce, advancing somewhat during the year, and was quoted at \$17.75 in December. This price was quoted until April, 1900, when it advanced to \$18.20, and remained at that figure until the spring of this year, when it again advanced. The demand is somewhat in excess of supply, and it is believed that the price will go still higher. There is also quite an active demand for the associated metals—osmium and iridium—for use in the manufacture of incandescent-gas burners.

#### Natural v. Synthetic Indigo.

The collector of Customs at Calcutta, in dealing with exports of indigo from that port, shows that in the three years preceding the appearance of synthetic indigo on the market the average annual exports of indigo from Calcutta were 109,182 cwt., valued at 231r. per Indian maund (82 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs.), whereas during the last four years the competition of artificial indigo has sent down the average exports to 70,964 cwt., valued at only 178r. per maund. Experience showed in 1899-1900 that the Badische indigo effectively limits the level to which prices can rise when the output of natural indigo is deficient. With a maximum limit set upon prices the future of the industry depends on a reduction in the cost of production. The area under indigo has been seriously curtailed in the last two years. In Lower Bengal the reduction is as great as 60 per cent. Russia, which took less indigo last year, is said to be supplying her requirements largely from Java. One satisfactory feature of the year 1900 is an advance from 33 to 40 per cent. in the proportion of the total shipments that went to non-European ports. It should be added that the collector considers that no part of the fall in the price of indigo can be attributed to a difference in the exchange value of the rupee, as the average rate has declined with the fall in prices.

## Newcastle-on-Tyne and District Chemists' Association.

THE fifth annual meeting was held in the Hôtel Métropole on October 9, Mr. Charles Ridley, retiring President, in the chair.

There were thirty members present. Routine business transacted, ten new members were elected:—Messrs. Anderson, Chester-le-Street; H. J. Bates, New Benwell; J. Barrow, Annfield Plain; E. Bennison, T. Robson, and J. Pigg, Newcastle; J. W. Craik, Morpeth; R. Forrest, South Shields; J. Coward (Ayrton & Saunders); and Swales (T. Simcock & Co.).

The Secretary's report showed good work done, especially by the Parliamentary Committee, and was adopted. The Treasurer's statement was also considered satisfactory, albeit a small deficit was shown on the year's working. The total expenditure for the year was 187. 9s. 9d., part of which, spent on special objects, would more than account for the shortage.

Feeling reference was made to the loss the Association had sustained through the death of Mr. George Duncan, a previous member of Executive, and the Secretary was instructed to convey the sympathy of the meeting to Mrs. Duncan and family.

#### THE EXECUTIVE FOR THE YEAR

is as follows:—President, Robert Wright (Newcastle); Vice-Presidents, T. Maltby Clague, F. Gilderdale, C. Ridley, G. F. Merson (Newcastle), J. D. Rose (Jarrow), and Alex. Ellis (South Shields); Committee, Peter Bell, F. R. Dudderidge, William Pescod, J. Graham, and F. Weston (Newcastle), R. Brand (Wallsend), W. Buckley (North Shields), and R. Cubey (Blaydon); Treasurer, W. Kerse (Newcastle); Hon. Secretary, William Atkins, 128 Raby Street, Newcastle. As "Federation" representatives for current year, F. Gilderdale, J. D. Rose, Chas. Ridley, and G. F. Merson (Hon. Secretary Federation), were appointed.

In a short address, the newly elected PRESIDENT dwelt chiefly on

#### TRADE MATTERS.

He considered that local associations in districts such as theirs should devote all their attention to trade questions, and to cultivating socially each others acquaintance. Intellectual meetings were good, but social gatherings were better still, especially in the present condition of the retail drug-trade. The social element was never more needed than to-day. Circumstances, said he, do not conduce to sociability. Competition was too keen, and all one's energies were devoted to business. He had no word to say against honest open competition, but he would strongly condemn that competition which is shown in a man selling an article at or below cost simply as a draw for other business. This want of a guiding-principle in business of to-day it is which causes harass and worry. The "patent" trade generates friction, and he failed to see why chemists should become the tools of capitalists. Has the time not come, he asked, when a closer union cannot take the place of unhealthy competition? Let them combine in districts, where it was impracticable in whole towns, with a view to securing uniformity in the prices of proprietary articles. Proceeding, he touched upon other subjects which he thought might usefully engage the attention of the Association during the winter session, such as the apprentice-question; which, he said, he was very pleased to see being discussed in the columns of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST recently. No wonder lads ceased to be attracted to the calling. The discrepancy between responsibility and remuneration was too emphatic. Hours of business are too long, and could easily be curtailed. Such a movement would have the sympathy and support of the general public. He considered that the draft Pharmacy Bill was an earnest and honest attempt to deal with a very complex problem, and to bring company-pharmacy into line. Since it could not be stopped, he would be glad to have it regulated.

The monthly meetings so far arranged include a smoking-concert in aid of the "Cobra Fund," dinner, trade matters introduced through the "Federation," chromatic photography, laboratory notes, and official matters.

## The Draft Pharmacy Bill.

### Meeting in Liverpool.

At the invitation of the Pharmaceutical Society a Conference of chemists in the Liverpool district was held on Thursday, October 10, in the Royal Institution, Liverpool. There was a fair attendance. Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme (President), and Messrs. Symes, Taylor, Young, and Bremridge (Secretary) represented the Society. Mr. H. Wyatt, jun., the President of the local Association, occupied the chair, and stated that the object of the Conference was simply to get an expression of opinion from that district with regard to the draft Pharmacy Bill, and any other matters connected with the working of the Pharmaceutical Society. He formally moved a resolution extending a hearty welcome to the visitors. This Mr. A. C. Abraham seconded, and the motion was cordially agreed to.

#### MR. NEWSHOLME

thanked the meeting. He explained that he and his colleagues had come to Liverpool to hear what their fellow members of the craft had to say on the draft Pharmacy Bill and other matters bearing on their interests. He wanted them to be good enough to talk in a very straightforward way, and if they had any difficulties to state them. They had spent a very great deal of time discussing the draft Pharmacy Bill. Every registered chemist in this country, and every man who had taken the trouble to think about the position of his craft, had fully recognised that the state of pharmacy for a very great number of years had been most unsatisfactory. (Hear, hear.) That opinion had been long expressed, and, as they were quite well aware, the Council of the Society had on several previous occasions drafted bills of various kinds to try to meet some of the difficulties of which they as pharmacists were cognisant, and with which they had to contend. They had given an enormous amount of time and thought to that Bill. Chemists in Liverpool and other provincial cities of importance had also. Referring to the action by the Liverpool Association he recalled the fact that Mr. A. C. Abraham drafted a bill which the Council were not prepared to accept. The present Bill was the outcome of the deliberations and consideration not only of the Society, but of the various Associations. The Council had perhaps gone a little further than they originally intended in drafting the Bill, and further than some of their colleagues thought they ought to have gone. Nevertheless, the Bill was the result of very great consideration and thought on the part of the members of the Council and of their calling all over the country. There were many people who said the only thing they could deal with at all was the question of limiting the title of the qualified individual to the individual himself. It was said that they had the power to do that already if they liked to put it into effect. That was a very difficult question, and he need not remind them what happened in 1881 with reference to the great company question, and as to limited companies being outside the Act. It had been said over and over again if those companies were outside the Act for one thing they were outside for another. There was a little difference of opinion about that, and it might be said that the Lord Chancellor himself, in attempting as he thought to improve the Companies Act, suggested that it might be desirable for limited companies to carry on business by law, and use titles provided they had in their employ a pharmaceutical chemist or a chemist and druggist. If the Lord Chancellor said that, surely what he meant was that it was legal for a company to-day to use the title. If it were otherwise why should the Lord Chancellor be so anxious for them to have the law amended, or for them to have in their employ a chemist and druggist? (Hear, hear.) They had had counsel's opinion on that point, and to make it perfectly sure they had put in the draft Bill a provision making it illegal for a company to use the title; or, rather, to limit the title entirely to the qualified individual, so that no limited company would be allowed to use it. He wanted them to be clear about that. A limited company, whatever it consisted of, would not be able to use the title, because a company was a thing, an impersonal

being, and no company could take upon itself the duties of separate persons. (Hear, hear.) It was perfectly clear in itself that if there were seven members of a limited company, there was no doubt about it each one of those might use the title if he held the qualification. He might use it, but the company itself must not. That was provided for in the Bill. The great principles of the draft Bill were registration of individuals and of shops, and the prevention of a limited company trading in the way mentioned. Other things had cropped up during the time they had discussed the Bill, and one was an important matter, especially since the decision given by Mr. Lane in London. The clause dealing with the matter was to the effect that the address of the registered shop where the sale of poison took place should be the address of the seller under the Act. The very best course to adopt was undoubtedly to take the address at which the particular poison was sold, so that in the event of accident it could be properly traced. There were many more details in the Bill, but he would not go into those matters, and only asked for an expression of opinion as to the Bill from the meeting. He was quite prepared to lay their views before the Council, or to reply to any criticisms. (Applause.)

#### MR. T. F. ABRAHAM

moved formally, in order to set the discussion going,

That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable in the interests of pharmacists that the Bill now prepared by the Pharmaceutical Society should be supported.

There were, he said, three points he would like to mention. In anything they said or did in this matter, they must remember that all legislation had only a chance of success in so far as it was distinctly in the public interest. The public would not sanction any legislation that had for its object the protection of a class. They had nothing to expect from Parliament unless it could be shown that in protecting them it was protecting the public. The second point he desired to emphasise was that this Bill was not a mere Poisons Bill because it distinctly stated "the place used for the dispensing or compounding of poisons or medical prescriptions." So in that point the Bill was more perfect than the Pharmacy Act of 1858. The third point was that under this Bill the result would probably be that in the great stores there would be a chemist's shop, and that the dispensing-department would be kept entirely distinct from other portions, and that the mere retailing of non-poisonous drugs and proprietary articles and medical requisites might be conducted anywhere they chose, but that the dispensing of prescriptions and the sale of drugs containing poisons would be confined to one portion, which would be registered under the Act as a shop, and that that portion of the premises would be managed by a registered person; and, further, that if he had an assistant who had to handle poisons or dispense, that assistant would have to be registered also. (Hear, hear.)

#### MR. T. S. WOKES

seconded, although he would have liked the Bill to go a little further. But he felt that if they went too far perhaps they would not get anything at all. As it stood now, it offered them something substantial, and, he hoped, something that they would be able to get through. He strongly supported the measure. He believed they should go for personal qualification; that every chemist should be entitled to his own title and to the full use of it, but that no companies, as such, should be allowed to use titles obtained by examination. The present Bill would prevent that, and would thus go a very long way towards protecting the individual chemist.

#### AN AMENDMENT.

Mr. Grace moved, as an amendment—

That no Bill will be acceptable to the majority of the trade which does not secure to us the law of qualified proprietorship—that was to say, no Bill which allowed limited companies any place whatever. He thought it was a very retrograde movement to give any sort of legislation to stores. They should make no surrender whatever to them. (Hear, hear.) He thought, also that they wanted to stop branch shops. (Hear, hear.) There should be one qualification for one man, which should be renewable every year, and no branch

shops. It was something scandalous that branch shops should be allowed to be placed under the nose of a man who was trying to make a living. The Bill was not a bit of use to chemists at all.

The Chairman said, speaking as an ordinary pharmacist, he thought the Bill as put before them would provide a great deal of the protection they wished for. The very fact of having the name of the individual who was running the shop put in a conspicuous position, and that shop being properly registered, and a register kept of all the names, shops, and businesses, he thought would go a long way towards supplying the protection desired. To the best of his belief there had been a great change within the last few years in the management of those branch shops in their own district. Instead of shops being run by one man, perhaps registered in 1868 without passing any examination, with unqualified assistants in about fifteen or twenty different shops to look after the dispensing in each, now it was a very rare thing indeed to find a shop without a qualified man in charge.

Mr. Grace: No; it is rather common.

The Chairman said if there was a case of that sort there was a divisional secretary to whom they could write, and anyone who knew of such breaches of the law and did not so communicate was very wanting in a sense of duty to himself and the other members of his craft.

Mr. Chabot seconded the amendment, and said he had been a pharmaceutical chemist for upwards of fifteen years, up and down the country, and in no part of the country had he failed to be struck by the considerable number of unqualified men carrying on business as chemists and druggists. Not only so, but members of their own craft had branch shops, and put unqualified men in them, never going near them from one week's end to another except to collect the money. (Applause.) In regard to their own neighbourhood, he might say he could give their worthy Secretary about twenty names of such cases within his personal knowledge, and known also to their local secretaries.

Mr. Bremridge: I will have them—hand them up, sir.

Mr. Chabot said he knew of such cases which were under the nose of their local secretaries. He considered that the latter were appointed to report such cases, and that the matter was not one to be left to the individual chemists. (Hear, hear.) What was the object of the local secretaries and their organisation? He had been two years in Liverpool, and he had had no communication whatever from any local secretary, although he was on the register. Did they call that organisation?

The Chairman: You attend the Liverpool Chemists' Association meetings, sir?

Mr. Chabot repeated his statement as to having had no communication from the local Association, and gave instances which had come to his knowledge in different parts of the country of branch shops with unqualified men in charge. In one instance there were eight qualified men to thirty shops. He knew one shop in Liverpool conducted by a man who was formerly an errand-boy, and several shops which were conducted by women. There was ample room for the Society to work in their immediate district, and if they showed more activity in that direction, he thought they would receive a greater measure of support from the chemists at large. (Applause.) Instead of advocating a new bill, which practically did nothing beyond confining the title to the chemist, which he already possessed, and registering men and shops, why did they not look after the cases already within their scope? If the man and the shop were registered, moreover, what was to become of the branch shops? Were they all to have qualified men? ("Yes.") Where were they going to get them? (Laughter.) The result would be that they would have to close half their branch shops. ("Good thing too.") A very good thing too for those men who did not possess branch shops. (Laughter.) But they would find the men who did possess branch shops would fight them tooth and nail. There was no doubt the position of stores was legalised in 1881, and, therefore, it was perfectly useless to put a clause in the Bill with reference to that point. Surely the Society might bring a test-case as to the use of title? A man who had gone through all his examinations looked for something more than the mere sale of poisons.

Mr. Newsholme: That is what we want to give him.

Mr. Chabot: What are you giving him? Are you restricting the sale of drugs to him?

Mr. Newsholme: Medical prescriptions.

Mr. Chabot, proceeding, spoke of the advantages of the Canadian system of qualification of registration, whereby a man was apprenticed to the College not to a chemist, and was perfectly free, with examinations to qualify him as an assistant first and afterwards to trade. But he could not trade until he had paid his annual fee to the College and by that means every man became a supporter of the College, and every man *per se* had an interest in it. (Hear, hear.) He thought their Society should have gone, in 1881, for the whole qualification. (Hear, hear.) The whole of the trade in drugs should be confined to the chemist. That was what they went through their training for.

#### WHAT WILL THE BILL DO?

Mr. Peet confessed that he was unable to see how the passing of the Bill would in any way strengthen the hands of the chemist and druggist to-day. He was entirely opposed to Clause 10 of the Bill, which, he said, was simply to make it a question of high pharmacy. How could they expect that the parents of young men would send them to the University, as that clause proposed? ("No.") It was tantamount to that. ("No.") Or that they would stiffen the examinations of the Pharmaceutical Society? ("No.") What temptation was there to any man to-day to enter the business of a chemist and druggist? Mr. Abraham had said very truly that they could not expect the Legislature would do anything except for the protection of the public. He contended that the Legislature should do something, when a man had passed his qualifying examinations, to protect him. (Hear, hear.) It did so for every other profession, but what did it do for the chemist except allow him to sell a few drugs which no one could sell unless qualified, and of which he ventured to say scarcely a man in that room sold one pound's worth in the whole year? (Applause.) What he would suggest to the Society and those interested in the protection of the interests of the chemists was that, if they went to the Legislature at all, they should go on the lines of the German chemist, and say, "We will only allow a certain number of chemists to each district." There they did give some protection; but here they allowed the tinker, tailor, butcher, baker, and candle-stick-maker permission to sell everything a chemist sold, and often very much cheaper than he felt disposed to sell it at. He did not think they were going to get very much protection under the Bill. His own feeling was that the Bill, if passed, would only fetter the actions of chemists, and he would say, either drop the whole thing or go the "whole hog." (Hear, hear.) He did not support the amendment, but he would vote against the original resolution.

Mr. Herman could not agree with the movers of the amendment, believing that the Society had done what it could in the first instance. Something had been said about unqualified men, but Mr. Bremridge had had several letters from him with respect to that matter, and he had always found that they had been acted upon. (Hear, hear.) Of course, the result was that the unqualified man had gone away, and someone else had come. It would be better if the bill were on a broader footing. He thought himself that if chemists had no qualifications at all they would be on a much better footing. (Hear, hear.) When people saw the name "chemist" they felt they were safe, although the name might be that of So-and-So (Limited). If there were no qualifications and Society, as at present, the public would distinguish between a man who knew his work and a man who did not. (Hear, hear.) They would distinguish between the chemist who had studied his profession and the chemist who had not. At the present time the public flocked in anywhere just like sheep, without knowing whether they were being properly served or not. (Hear, hear.) The speaker proceeded to refer to companies and branch shops, especially complaining that the word "limited" is sometimes omitted by the former.

#### THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY THEN REPLIED.

He asked Mr. Grace whether he would rather go on having the title used by every bogus or other kind of

company than adopt or regulate the matter by the system they intended to adopt in the Bill?

Mr. Grace: I would sooner wait for Government to bring in what it likes, and then try.

The President said it was not the easiest matter in the world to do what Mr. Grace suggested. If they began to talk about stopping limited companies trading in drugs or anything else was there a single M.P. who would listen to them for a moment? The system had grown in the last twenty years enormously, and unfortunately it did not affect their own only but every other trade. It was a most unfortunate thing, and he believed in the near future this country was going to suffer very much indeed by those huge limited companies which for the time being paid a considerable amount of money to the shareholders, but eventually would be a very bad thing for the community, destroying individual enterprise and crippling general trade. (Applause.) He hoped before the Secretary left that meeting Mr. Chabot would tell him of the people he knew who were unqualified.

Mr. Chabot: Will our secretary prosecute?

The President: Yes, sir, I will undertake that he will. (Applause.)

Mr. Chabot: He shall have the names.

The President said Mr. Chabot urged that the Society should do this, that, and the other, looking after his interests and everybody else's, but did not Mr. Chabot owe something to the Society and to the State? (Hear, hear.) If Mr. Chabot knew someone was acting irregularly and doing him damage, he was surprised that in his own interest, as well as that of the craft generally, Mr. Chabot had not before now reported the cases to the registrar. (Hear, hear.) With reference to Mr. Peet's arguments, their object was not to stiffen the examinations and make it more difficult to enter the craft, but by imposing a course of study to make it easier for a man to pass his examination. (Hear, hear.) It was a most painful thing to see a young man coming up time after time who had had no education at all. If an examiner knew a man had passed through a certain course of study it was much easier to examine him, as well as easier for the individual himself to qualify. (Hear, hear.) He contended also that the professions alluded to by Mr. Peet were not protected at all. The medical man's title was protected, but there was nothing beyond that, and he was not protected from quacks of any description. The medical man was in no better position than the chemist.

Mr. Peet said there were hundreds of appointments which were open to medical men alone, but was there anything beyond the sale of about a dozen drugs which was restricted to the chemist? He objected that the chemist should be in a different position to anybody else in the country who had gone through a qualifying examination, and unless they could protect him altogether, he said, do not fetter his hands any more. (Applause.)

#### "DITTO" TO THE PRESIDENT.

Mr. Lewis asked whether the Apothecaries' Society would prosecute any gentleman who prescribed as well as compounded? They would not, and he did not see how the doctors were protected. He thought they had the best end of the stick as chemists. He thought the Bill was a step in the right direction, and should be supported. If they looked after themselves they would still have a very good business, provided he was right in his understanding of the attitude of the Apothecaries' Society. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. T. F. Abraham said Mr. Peet had implied that most persons possessing professional qualifications were protected by law. He thought that if he reflected a little, Mr. Peet would see that he was wrong. The architect was entirely unprotected, so was the highly educated sanitarian and the engineer, whose duties were far more concerned with risk to life than those of an ordinary chemist. The whole question came back to the one of the protection of the public, and Mr. Peet would not maintain that it was necessary for the protection of the public that a man should be examined before he sold bicarbonate of soda and castor oil. It was hopeless for them to waste their breath in asking the Pharmaceutical Society to get the sale of drugs confined to them.

Mr. Cooke could not support the amendment. They had allowed the right to their privileges for

twenty-one years, and they could not stop them now. They had only one alternative—regulation or revolution. They had a good example of the latter going on in South Africa now. Mr. Grace said "All or nothing." That was what was said in South Africa, and they were getting nothing. (Hear, hear.) If there was any possibility of getting a benefit by revolution, and throwing up their charter, he would say by all means do it but he did not see how they were to do it, and, in company with the officials of the Pharmaceutical Society, he was beginning to think they ought to go in for regulation. The Society was working now with a view to ensuring to qualified chemists the dispenserships of all public institutions, the army, navy, &c. He was in favour of the Bill. They could not do everything at once, nor could they get perfection, and he thought the Bill suggested the best course. (Applause.)

Mr. Breeze said he had heard no direct reference to the Companies Bill in that discussion. They were calmly asking the Legislature to say it should be unlawful for a company to do such and such a thing which a company was entitled to do by the gigantic Act which brought them into being, and he thought they would find great difficulty in carrying that out. (Hear, hear.) Those big companies called themselves chemists under the Companies Act, not under the Pharmacy Act. He moved that the Bill be approved with the exception of the 7th and 11th sections.

#### COUNCILLORS SPEAK.

Mr. J. Rymer Young objected to the idea that the local or divisional secretary should become a sort of unpaid detective. (Hear, hear.) If a man, interested in the businesses around him, saw instances of evasion of the Act it was his duty to communicate with the Secretary, who would certainly take the matter up. (Applause.) It had been hinted that the Society was doing nothing in the matter of prosecuting. Had that gentleman been at the last Council-meeting he would have seen three hours practically taken up by cases of prosecution. It might be that they had not caught all the wrongdoers, but because there were some thieves at liberty in Liverpool they would not say that the police system was altogether bad. Mr. Peet was just a little contradictory, and, having pointed out wherein, Mr. Young proceeded to say that at the Manchester meeting he had expressed the opinion that the talking stage of the measure ought to be regarded as nearly finished, and he was of that opinion still. The other day he came across a pertinent paragraph in one of the weekly newspapers. The writer must have been gifted with an unusual amount of sound, wholesome philosophy; he said, "No corporate body can hope to thrive whilst it does open and flagrant violence to its own professions." (Applause.) It appeared to him that this paragraph bears a message for us. Whether connected with the Society or not, chemists are, by right of registration, members of one corporation or class, whose sole reason for existence is the safety of the public. How can this special statutory class hope to thrive whilst individual units of it are daily and hourly subordinating their public responsibilities to personal convenience or private advantage? His experience at the Council led him irresistibly to the conviction that our own house is not in that irreproachable order it should be, and, although he did not profess to be particularly enamoured of some of the proposals contained in the Bill, he recognised that it would go very far to purge our calling of the causes of reproach, that Government Departments are so keen to note and to remember. (Applause.) If for no other reason the Bill merits support. Mr. Young proceeded to say that if the new system of local organisation is to be confined to convening at an interval of twelve months or so open gatherings of chemists in various parts of the country with members of the Councils as chief attractions, no advance will be made upon what local associations have been doing well for years. If successful public gatherings be the great *desideratum*, the Lancashire Associations are past masters in the art of promoting them, and have nothing to learn from Bloomsbury. But the object of the new scheme was not to organise ornamental meetings with a view to exhibit the superlative excellence of the Council oratory, but rather to stimulate local cohesion and to induce local members of the craft to take a living

and intelligent interest in the welfare of the body to which they belong. Chemists have many grievances that are real, and many more that are fanciful; is it not the essence of unwise to debate these before the world? Is it necessary that the enemy should, through the pharmaceutical press, be privy to their innermost thoughts? He suggested that it might be better to bring forward the real and fancied wrongs to a private conference, at which an officer of the Society should be present as a consultant, adviser, and recorder. He was astonished sometimes when he recalled how little guidance is given to the Council by local chemists, and yet how vast is the volume of epistolary violence flowing through the pages of the trade journals, and it inclined him to think that there must be plenty of energy available, which if directed into a fitting channel, would carry the calling into the position of a first-class political fighting power. (Applause.)

Mr. Bremridge having spoken briefly and thankfully of his indebtedness to the officers of the local Association for calling that meeting together, said he would be very glad if that gathering gave to the President a message for the Council that in their opinion it was not desirable those meetings should be public. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. John Taylor (Bolton) said he had a great deal of sympathy with Mr. Grace's amendment, because it represented a state of mind on the question through which he had passed himself. To have to pin oneself to the public legal recognition of company pharmacy was giving away a great deal. His regret was for the *locus standi* it would give the companies in any future legislation dealing with pharmacy. But that point of view reduced them to the phrase "all or none," and he changed his mind on practical policy. The conditions in Canada and Germany could not be compared with those in this country, and most of the professions which had been cited were, unlike the chemist's, very ancient establishments. If they saw how their trade stood with regard to the public at large, it was at once evident that there would be no headway gained by giving up what they already had. (Hear, hear.) He pleaded for the educational clauses of the bill, speaking of the advantages they would confer upon young candidates preparing for examination, and urged that the long hours too often insisted upon in the case of assistants were doing more to deter the right kind of men from coming forward than poor wages, company competition, or any of the other ills. (Applause.) If they passed the amendment he hoped they would do so with their eyes open. Not one of the men on the Council who helped to draft the bill thought it was the bill he would like to put through if he had Aladdin's lamp, and could say, "Let this be done." (Hear, hear.) But they felt that they would have drawn in the public mind a broad distinction; that although a big firm might call themselves dealers in drugs, or that kind of thing, they should no longer call themselves chemists, that the name of the qualified man in charge should be put over every shop, and that, in a way, the present Act did not give it, they would have secured that in every pharmacy there should be a qualified man to take charge. (Applause.) When they had got tangible results like that the bill was worth having, and it was not open to anyone to say that the bill did not help them in any way. (Hear, hear.) The measure of the worth of the bill to them was the measure of the opposition to it from the other side, and the moment there was any chance of the bill coming before the House of Commons there would be a very great opposition raised to it. He urged them to think twice before they threw away a bill which would give them many tangible advantages in many directions, though perhaps not going to the extreme limit they would like if they could all have their own way. (Applause.)

#### EDUCATION AND LONG HOURS.

Mr. Wallbridge (St. Helens) asked whether that meeting was representative of Liverpool alone, without speaking of the outside districts? ("No.") The great thing was to get more of a bond of union amongst the chemists. The greatest obstacle to any progress was that lack of unity. At present one-tenth of the trade had to do the work of the other nine-tenths, besides their own. He heartily supported the Bill, and said the difficulty with unqualified men was in catching them. (Hear, hear.) Manchester was worse than

Liverpool in that respect. A leading article in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of the previous week suggested that the educational horse had been ridden a little too long by the Council, and that they should try the trade-horse for a little while. He agreed with that, and thought the educational clauses might condemn the Bill's chances. (Applause.)

Dr. Symes said most of the critics had led off by complaining of the Bill, and then gone on to advocate some of the principles it provided for. The Bill provided for means of going to a shop, ascertaining that it was managed by a qualified man, and finding out whether that man was there or not. They could see the power that placed in the hands of the registrar. They asked for that Bill for the safety of the public. There was many a good man who got creditably through his examination without any course of study, but any man would be the better for such a course. (Applause.) The dividing of the examinations was a distinct effort to make the examinations less difficult without lowering the standard. (Applause.)

Mr. A. C. Abraham welcomed Mr. Taylor's remarks as to long hours. The Society did a more important thing when they decided to support the Shop-hours Bill than in all those Bills of their own. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman urged that to enforce one uniform curriculum upon all students would not be a bad thing. He believed that the system in Germany or France would not commend itself to them if they thoroughly appreciated what it meant, but he believed the Canadian plan was a very good one, and a similar one in England would be acceptable to them all. (Hear, hear.) "One man one shop" was the ideal theory, and that Bill was the nearest thing possible to it. (Applause.)

Mr. Breeze's amendment did not find a seconder, and fell to the ground. Mr. Grace's amendment was lost by a large majority, and the original motion in support of the Bill was carried with only three or four dissentients.

Mr. Newsholme, replying to Mr. Breeze, said if the Bill passed it would prevent companies carrying on their business except under the conditions laid down.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman and members of the Council terminated the proceedings.

## Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

WE have received from the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, the following list of persons who were granted certificates at the recent examinations held in Edinburgh.

#### EXAMINATIONS IN EDINBURGH.

October, 1901.

#### MAJOR EXAMINATION.

Candidate examined	...	...	...	...	1
" failed	...	...	...	...	1

#### MINOR EXAMINATION.

Candidates examined	...	...	...	...	74
" failed	...	...	...	...	41
" passed	...	...	...	...	33

Adamson, T. M., Newburgh	Ivinson, Charles Horace, Leeds
Bintcliffe, J. W., Holywell Green	Jolly, Charles S., Montrose
Breingan, William, Glasgow	Macdonald, Robert, Paisley
Broadburn, E. A., Nottingham	Madgshon, Flora C., Jarrow-on-Tyne
Cameron, Andrew R., Glasgow	Michie, John Boyd, Alva
Crawford, George W., Glasgow	Miller, Harry Barton, Sheffield
Dotchin, W. A., Monkwearmouth	Munro, William, Edinburgh
Douglas, Alexander, Falkirk	Murdoch, John, Dumfries
Downie, James W., Glasgow	Parsons, Henry, Blyth
Duncan, George, Dundee	Paterson, James J., Penarth
Gerrie, John, Inverness	Robertson, Alexander, Glasgow
Gordon, W. H., Cornhill-of-Park	Robertson, Bessie Brown, Markinch
Grant, William A., Ballater	Spence, William W., Linlithgow
Grosskopf, G. A., Manchester	Thomson, James H., Fochabers
Hartley, Allen, Outwood	Type, Fannie E., Birmingham
Hogg, John, Edinburgh	Welton, E. G., Attleborough
Idris, William T. A., London	